FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT CHAIRS MILITARY MEETING TO DISCUSS ISRAELI ATTACKS

NC190950 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] The Joint Palestinian-Lebanese Command and the Palestinian Military Council held a meeting last night under brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, to discuss the large-scale Zionist aggression against the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian and Lebanese masses in southern Lebanon.

It was learned that the command discussed the military and security reports concerning the Zionist aims behind this aggression. The command decided that the enemy is carrying out a large-scale act of attrition in preparation for a large-scale military operation.

The military council discussed the new Israeli tactics and drew up a plan to repel the aggression and protect the Lebanese and Palestinian masses.

PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL ON ISRAELI OPERATIONS IN LEBANON

NC171820 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 17 May 80

[17 May statement by Director of the Joint Forces Central Operations Department Abu al-Walid--recorded]

[Excerpts] I would like to state the reasons for the recent Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon, particularly in the occupied lands. I believe the reasons for this aggression are first and foremost political. It is now well known that the whole world condemns Zionist policies in the occupied lands. So Israel now has to give something to the world, particularly after Anwar as-Sadat surrendered all his cards to the Israeli leadership. We and the whole world have grown accustomed to the fact that when Israel faces a difficult situation, it always evades it by focusing on other issues; that is, by carrying out acts of aggression against its neighbors. Therefore, I think this is the principle reason behind the current Israeli aggression against Lebanon, either inside or outside the occupied territories. [as heard]

Militarily and tactically speaking, I think the Israeli leadership aims at constantly taking the initiative. This means that it does not want to enable the Palestinian resistance to carry out its attacks against Israel--attacks of which the time and place are usually unknown. The Israeli leadership thinks that it can continue to employ this style, and will thus put the Palestinian resistance on the defensive.

The Palestinian resistance, which uses guerrilla warfare, will not allow any regular force to take this initiative from the Palestinian resistance and into its own hands. The Israeli enemy knows that its attempts entail perils and cannot insure the success of its aims, for time is still on the side of the Palestinian resistance, which will be able to wage successive attacks at various places and at various times against the Israeli enemy.

'ARAFAT WARNS EUROPEAN STATES AGAINST PRO-ISRAEL POLICY

NC181632 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1515 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar today warned the Western European states against continuing their pro-Israel policy. This warning came in an interview broadcast today on all frequencies of Radio Europe Number One. This interview was attended by 20 French newsmen who work for this radio and for French papers published in Paris. In the interview, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: The pro-Israel policy of the European states works against the interests of these states and their peoples.

Brother Abu 'Ammar told the French newsmen in Europe: You only see Israel, its stability and its standard of living, but nothing else. If the European states continue to pursue this policy, they will pay aavery high price.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: The Arabs will use all their weapons in the future in their conflict with the Zionist enemy. This will deeply affect the interests of Europe and the United States, which should heed this fact before it is too late.

About the possibility of a visit to France, Brother Abu 'Ammar added that if he receives an official invitation he will visit France to seek to convince European opinion that the Palestinian cause is just and to halt French political and diplomatic support for the Zionist enemy against our Palestinian people. He pointed out that our Palestinian people are suffering outside their homeland, Palestine. Abu 'Ammar also said that our people are looking forward to returning to their homeland, living in their homeland, determining their own fate and setting up their independent state on their land.

In connection with Afghanistan, Brother Abu 'Ammar answered questions of the newsmen of Radio Europe Number One and of the French papers. He said: The PLO has held consultations with Iran, India, Cuba and Afghanistan on taking some kind of action to find solutions which will confirm good intentions toward Afghanistan. Brother Abu 'Ammar said he is awaiting a reply on this subject from the Afghan Government.

In his interview withethe French newsmen, Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar warned about the gravity of the military deployments in the Arab Gulf and the Indian Ocean. He also noted the worry caused by these deployments that a world war might erupt and endanger the whole of mankind.

'ARAFAT THANKS AL-QADHDHAFI FOR SUPPORT

NC190941 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Last night the Libyan leadership held two telephone conversations with Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar. One of the Libyan Command members conveyed a message from Brother Col Mu-ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar.

Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi affirmed Libya's support for the Palestinian revolution in the battle of steadfastness against the ferocious Zionist aggression. Brother Abu 'Ammar thanked Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi for his initiative, affirming that the Palestinian revolution will remain the vanguard force for steadfastness and confrontation in defense of the Arab nation's dignity and pride.

KUWAIT CONTINUES MEDIATION BETWEEN JORDAN, SYRIA

JN181003 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Dubayy, 18 May--Citing Kuwaiti diplomatic sources, the Dubayy newspaper AL-BAYAN reports today that thanks to the good offices of Kuwaiti heir apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, the ice engulfing the Syrian-Jordanian relations have successfully managed to thaw. The sources added that the two countries' relations will witness tangible development within the next few days precisely after the Syrian prime minister;s visit to Amman, which is scheduled to take place soon.

The sources pointed out that the Jordanian information minister's current visit to Syria is a sign of the good intentions of the two countries.

It is worth mentioning that Jordanian and Syrian officials have recently admitted the existence of tepidity in their relations in the wake of Syria's accusations about anti-Syrian camps in Jordan.

BAHRAIN

PRIME MINISTER CALLS ON ARABS, MUSLIMS TO BE VIGILANT

JN181938 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1740 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Manama, 18 May--Bahraini Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah has called on Arab and Muslim people, particularly in the Gulf, to be vigilant and watchful against plots and conspiracies which are hatched to create enmity among them.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY on the occasion of the Islamic foreign ministers conference convening in Islamabad, the prime minister said: The Islamic people pin great hope on the conference's discussions and its expected decisions. His highness referred to the danger lying in the latest intrigues perpetrated by saboteurs against the Arab Muslim people and against the Gulf people in particular.

His Highness Shaykh Khalifah pointed out that these intrigues aim at creating sedition among the Muslims in the one Arab country and among the Muslims in Islamic countries. Such intrigues seek to find racist and sectarian roots.

He stressed that the convocation of the Islamic conference in Islamabad must be an incentive to unify Muslims all over the world and to destroy any racist or sectarian attempt aimed at sowing discord among the Muslims of the one Arab country and stirring up fabricated differences among neighboring Muslim states which have lived in fraternity and peace for centuries.

Bahraini Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah warned that the perpetrators of these plots and intrigues are known to the Arab nation. They try to create a rift, which sometimes results in violence, among the members of the one Arab family.

His highness stressed that the secretive scheming hands which try to stir up sectarian and racist sedition among the sons of the Islamic nation are being encouraged by semi-official organs and sometimes by official organs. Some of the official radio stations and newspapers have recently begun to propagate these poisonous calls, and this heralds a grave danger against Islam and Muslims.

The Bahraini prime minister said that the Islamic foreign ministers participating in the Islamabad conference have agreed on the importance of the Islamic countries' unity in order to confront the increasing problems engulfing the Islamic world. He added that calls for coordination among the Islamic governments have been voiced in the conference to safeguard the security of the Islamic countries and particularly the security of the Gulf states, which are the center of the conflict among the interests of the superpowers.

His highness stressed that this security will not be established without destroying saboteurs and extinguishing any racist or sectarian sedition in its cradle so that acts of violence, which led to a number of massacres in the past and which claimed innocent Muslim lives, might not be repeated.

The prime minister reiterated that it is the duty of the conference to expose saboteurs who seek to sow differences among Muslims. He called on all Muslims to be watchful and vigilant against these poisonous racist calls which try to hide behind Islam in spreading their evils and sins.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

LD170931 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0803 GMT 17 May 80

[Excerpt] Kuwait--Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah left for Islamabad this morning to attend the conference of Islamic foreign ministers.

OMAN

MINISTER OF STATE LEAVES FOR JORDAN 19 MAY

JN190822 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0800 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Muscat, 19 May--Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi left here for Amman today on an official visit of several days to Jordan. During his visit, Az-Zawawi will hold talks with Jordanian officials on the Arab situation and bilateral relations.

PDRY

PDRY REPORTEDLY MASSING TROOPS ALONG OMAN BORDER

NC171117 Cairo MENA in English 1100 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Cairo, May 17 (MENA)--The ruling Marxist regime in Aden is amassing troops along the borders with the Sultanate of Oman and extraordinary preparations are currently made in the borders areas, for launching acts of sabotage against the sultanate according to reports from South Yemen.

The ruling regime in South Yemen works for reactivating the saboteurs by supplying them with new Soviet-made weapons and training them at the hands of the saboteurs who arrived in Aden from Cuba where they got their training on acts of sabotage, according to the reports which were published by the magazine "VOICE OF SOUTH YEMEN."

The movements undertaken by the ruling regime in Aden led to the suspension of the mediation efforts which were made by Kuwait between South Yemen and the Sultanate of Oman. What made the mediation more difficult is that the regime in Aden rejects to discuss naval concentrations there [which] pose a threat to the countries of the region.

PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED ON STABILITY, SOVIET TIES

LD171130 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0735 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Kuwait--The president of South Yemen, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, said in a press interview today there was no place for a military coup in his country because the Yemen Socialist Party was the one that steers and guides power. He added in the interview, published by AL-QABAS, that when he became president in succession of 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, who resigned last month, he was delegated to the presidency by the party's Central Committee.

He said that in South Yemen "there is no place for adventurers and no one could mount attack to capture power." He accused "the Western and reactionary information media of distorting facts and by adopting agitating methods in their treatment of the recent political changes in his country."

Nasir Muhammad denied that by coming to power it was the start of changes in Aden's foreign policy and its relations with the countries of the Gulf region in particular. He said there will be no change in the policy based on [word indistinct] the stability of the region and continuing efforts to develop relations with them on the basis of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect for national sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs and "the right of each country to choose its own independent path of social development." He said that those who speak of change in the policy of South Yemen after his election as president want "to (?plan) our foreign policy" as they also are seeking to portray Aden as if it did not "previously exert efforts to normalize and develop its relations with the countries of the region.

Nasir Muhammad also strongly denied that the close and strong (?ties) of his country with the Soviet Union had any influence on the establishment of normal relations with the countries of the region, especially the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He said that the establishment of relations with Riyadh based on the basic pillars of Yemen foreign policy "was and still is part of the efforts and endeavors we are exerting for the sake of stability in [words indistinct] with its countries regardless of the direction of their social systems."

The South Yemen president added that his country did not make it a condition for Saudi Arabia "to break off its relations with anyone in return for the establishment for good relations between it and our country, and in return (?I do not believe) that there is anyone there who can tell us to break off or reduce relations with anyone, for each of us have his own policy, independence and choices." He expressed his support for the restoration of relations between Riyadh and Moscow but denied that his country was mediating or making efforts in this connection.

He said that the Soviet Union "is a major power and does not need the mediation of others' to restore relations with Saudi Arabia. He added that it was not "in the interest of both peoples to remain estranged, especially since the Soviet Union took and adopts genuine stands on solidarity with the Arab countries in their just struggle against Zionist occupation and the Camp David policy which was blessed by American imperialism." Nasir Muhammad cited the existence of "positive pointers" in Saudi-Soviet relations which included Saudi officials' recognition "of the international role of the Soviet Union and their stress on the necessity of not ignoring this role."

Nasir Muhammad underlined the continuing tense relations between his country and Iraq, relations which deteriorated last summer after the murder of an Iraqi communist professor who worked in Aden and after the Yemeni authorities accused Iraqi intelligence of killing him. He said that relations with Iraq existed but they were not normal and were tense. He added that he had hoped that the cable of congratulations sent to him by President Saddam Husayn on becoming president last month "would be the beginning [word indistinct] of relations with Iraq but the opposite of what we hoped for happened." Last month Iraq hosted a gathering of South Yemen figures opposed to the regime of the South Yemen president and expressed its support for a front they set up under the name of the Yemeni national rally and frankly expressed its support for the overthrow and the change of the present regime in Aden.

The South Yemen president accused the regime of Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id in Oman of pushing the Gulf region toward further tension and instability by granting facilities for the American forces on the territory of the Sultanate of Oman. He called on all countries of the region to responsibly confront this matter because the United States will use all these facilities "to threaten" the countries neighboring Oman, including South Yemen.

He denied that there were any Soviet military bases in his country. He asked why there was so much focus on the Soviet Union, "the friend of the Arab peoples struggle," while there was "silence about America's imperialist policy and its military presence--it is known for its hostility toward the just Arab causes and for its scandalous plunder of our oil resources."

The South Yemen president made ending the enstrangement between his country and the Sultanate of Oman conditional on Muscat seeking what he called "settlement of its problems" with the Aden-backed popular front for the liberation of Oman, liquidation of military bases on its territory and the stopping of supporting of the Egyptian-Israeli-American Camp David agreements. Oman has not joined in the sanctions imposed by the Arab countries against Egypt for signing the peace treaty with Israel last year.

Nasir Muhammad once again played down the seriousness of the statements of Omani officials about their desire to open a new page in relations with Aden. He said that "these statements were not sincere" and in order to prove them true the aforementioned conditions must be complied with.

He said that the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front that is opposed to the peaceful policy of the Egyptian president toward Israel had made "positive steps along the path toward the goals it had drawn up since its establishment."

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS

LD181418 Kuwait Kuna in Arabic 0728 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Kuwait--The foreign minister of South Yemen, Salim Salih Muhammad, today said that he did not believe that his country's developing relations with the Soviet Union will prevent the establishment of natural relations between Aden and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He told Al-Qabas that his country desires the establishment of normal relations with Saudi Arabia on the basis of mutual respect for independence, national sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs.

Muhammad called for the recognition of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman if "firm bases for stability, cooperation and peace" are to be laid down in the Gulf region. He said that his country welcomes Arab mediation for reconciliation with its neighbor, the Sultanate of Oman, providing that the latter will not support the Egyptian-Israeli-American Camp Daivd agreements and will not offer bases to American forces on its territory and will come to an understanding with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman.

The South Yemen minister added that Iraq has not taken one step forward toward improving its relations with Aden, which deteriorated after the murder of an Iraqi communist university professor who worked as a lecturer at Aden University. Iraq also hosted a number of personalities opposed to the ruling regime in Aden and declared it support for the front they formed to overthrow the regime under the name of the Yemen National Rally.

Muhammad said that his country showed its good intentions to avoid disputes with Iraq and released the murderers of the Iraqi professor and handed them over to Baghdad, "and yet we have not received a positive initiative from the ruling Iraqi regime to encourage the improvement of relations. It has intensified its information campaign against the people of Democratic Yemen and laid down a number of conditions for these relations." He did not disclose the nature of these conditions but he stressed his country's rejection of these conditions.

He said that the Aden government does not establish relations "on the basis of any conditions but on the basis of noninterference in internal affairs and respect for independence and sovereignty."

Muhammad described his country's relations with the Islamic revolutionary regime in Iran as being "good," and he said that strengthening and consolidating them will serve stability and peace of all the countries of the region.

SOVIET PETROLEUM CORPORATION TO PROVIDE PRODUCTS

ID161229 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 May 80 EA

[Summary] An agreement was signed today between the Yemeni National Petroleum and Minerals Company and the Soviet petroleum corporation. The Aden News Agency learned that under the agreement the Soviet petroleum corporation will provide Democratic Yemen with 30,000 tons of Soviet petroleum products.

QATAR

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR ISLAMABAD CONFERENCE

JN170900 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0805 GMT 17 May 80

[Excerpt] Doha, 17 May--Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani left Doha for Islamabad this morning to attend the 11th Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference scheduled to begin there later today. The Qatari delegation is comprised of Qatar's ambassadors to Saudi Arabia and Pakistan and Foreign Ministry officials.

MINISTER WANTS TO END TWO-TIER PRICING SYSTEM

GF181335 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] In an interview with the Qatari newspaper GULF TIMES published today, Qatari Finance and Oil Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani said: The agreement on a fixed price for oil is vital for OPEC.

He hoped that the upcoming OPEC ministerial conference in Algiers will be able to agree on a price that equally serves the interest of consumers and producers. He said: Efforts will be made to end the present two-tier pricing system. The finance and oil minister stressed that the realization of this objective is likely to cool the fever in the oil markets and will enable OPEC member states to implement their long-term plans that were approved at the At-Ta'if conference.

UAE

GULF COUNTRIES TO INCREASE OIL PRICES BY $2 PER BARREL

JN180744 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0735 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 May--A UAE petroleum and natural resources responsible source has stated that the countries in the area are holding important consultations concerning the possibility of taking a unified decision to increase oil prices [word indistinct] Saudi Arabia's decision to increase oil prices by $2 a barrel. In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi, the source added that the price increase, in the range of $2 a barrel, will be announced soon in all the capitals of the countries in the area.

AS-SADAT LETTER TO BEGIN HANDED TO ISRAELI AMBASSADOR

NC181203 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1148 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 18 May--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today received Israel's Ambassador to Cairo Eliyahu ben-Elisar. During the approximately 40-minute interview the deputy prime minister handed the Israeli ambassador a letter from President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali attended the meeting.

AL-AHRAM Report

NC172230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 17 May--In its Sunday issue, AL-AHRAM reports that President Anwar as-Sadat's messages to U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin include specific proposals to which Egypt is demanding that Israel be committed in order to create a suitable atmosphere to resume the negotiations on a full autonomy.

In its proposals Egypt concentrates on the main issues toward which Israel must adopt a final and specific position--not only Jerusalem, but primarily the settlements issue, security and the latest Israeli measures--now that a whole year has passed since the talks started. The paper has learned that the Israeli side has indirectly pointed out that the aim of referring to a subcommittee draft law annexing Jerusalem was to impede and delay the adoption of a final decision on this issue.

'ALI MEETS WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR ATHERTON

NC181427 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 18 May--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met today with U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton. After the 75-minute meeting Atherton said that he exchanged views with 'Ali on issues relevant to the autonomy talks within the framework of the consultations he began yesterday.

Asked about a date for resuming the negotiations, Atherton said that he did not know, expressing the hope that the negotiations would be resumed as soon as possible. He said, however, that the talks could not be resumed without agreement from the three parties.

'Ali Statement

NC181530 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met today with the U.S. ambassador in Cairo. 'Ali said after the meeting that the talks with Atherton come within the framework of continuing consultations between the two countries concerning the present status of the autonomy talks.

'Ali said that the three countries want to resume the autonomy talks. He said: We are still at a stage of constant consultations and there is a desire to resume the negotiations under favorable circumstances, after all obstacles have been removed and after the United States holds contacts on the issue. He said that Egypt submitted certain proposals on the ideas submitted by the United States. 'Ali said that if the negotiations are resumed, they will take place in Cairo, as agreed in Herzliyya.

EGYPTIAN REACTION TO AUTONOMY TALKS REPORTED

'Ali Reaction, MENA Details

NC181650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1609 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 18 May--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the resumption of the autonomy negotiations should occur under more suitable circumstances and that the circumstances that led to the suspension of the negotiations should be avoided, as should everything that may disturb the atmosphere of the negotiations or impede them. He said that the postponement of the negotiations, twice in the past days, was a result of the fact that Israel came up with new attitudes and created obstacles that led to Egypt's decision to defer the negotiations.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister added that the United States is continuing its consultations with Egypt on the question of the autonomy negotiations, and is also holding consultations with the other side--Israel--in an attempt to change the atmosphere and surmount the obstacles so that the negotiations may be resumed. Meanwhile, MENA has learned that the United States, in its current attempts to get the negotiations going again, submitted some ideas to the Egyptian side yesterday and received Egypt's answer today.

MENA has also learned that Egypt rejected any preconditions by Israel, certain Israeli attitudes since the beginning of the negotiations and Israel's unacceptable stands that hinder the negotiations, especially in relation to Jerusalem, the settlements and the illegal and repressive measures in the West Bank and the Gaza sector.

It has further been learned that the aim of the current U.S. consultations with both sides is to lay sound foundations for the resumption of the negotiations. Egypt has stressed the need for adherence to the Camp David agreements. It has been learned that in the event of a change in the atmosphere, as desired by Egypt, and if the negotiations are resumed, they will be held in Al-Jizah, using the same method and at tripartite level.

Foreign Ministry Statement

NC151524 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1505 GMT 15 May 80

[15 May Egyptian Foreign Ministry statement]

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat held a meeting today which was attended by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, deputy leader of the National Democratic Party Dr Mustafa Khalil, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

The conferees discussed the situation of the autonomy talks for the Palestinians in light of the results of the latest talks and telephone conversations between President as-Sadat and U.S. President Carter.

In his speech at the People's Assembly yesterday President As-Sadat expressed Egypt's readiness to resume the negotiations out of its concern to make the peace efforts succeed and to reach an agreement on establishing full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as a first step toward settling the Palestinian problem. However, Israel has announced, through the head of its delegation to the autonomy talks, that the Israeli Government was preparing a basic government law, which stipulates, among other things, that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel. The head of the Israeli delegation said that he asked that a draft law on this issue be referred to the committee on constitution, judiciary and law. This creates a grave situation that contradicts the principles of international law and legality, the Camp David framework and the spirit of peace.

Furthermore, Israel has recently been making statements conducive to creating a status quo that contradicts the principle of negotiating from goodwill, because through such actions and statements, it tries to keep certain issues out of the framework of the negotiations, which is a clear violation of the principles of negotiations and of the essence of the current efforts for peace.

Also, all this was accompanied by Israel's escalation of repressive measures in the occupied territories in a way contrary to the spirit of trust-building which was agreed upon as a part of the peace process and as a means of eliminating the sufferings of the Palestinian people under the yoke of occupation.

In view of all these attitudes Israel has made it difficult to promote the appropriate atmosphere for the resumption of negotiations under the present circumstances, which necessitates that Israel must revise its position.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali will hold a press conference this evening to explain Egypt's position on the autonomy negotiations. He will also convey the Egyptian position to U.S. Ambassador in Cairo.

NEW MILITARY APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED 18 MAY

NC181320 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 18 May--It has been decided to appoint Maj Gen Mahmud 'Abdallah as director of military intelligence. He has thus far occupied the post of Defense Ministry secretary general. Assistant Chief of Staff Maj Gen Kamal Abu al-'Azayim will succeed him as the Defense Ministry secretary general.

Commander of the western military zone Maj Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz Qabil has been appointed Egypt's military attache in the United States to succeed Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Karim Abu Ghazalah, who has been appointed as chief of staff of the armed forces. Maj Gen Labib Sharab has been appointed Egypt's military attache in Paris to succeed Maj Gen Ahmad Jad.

AS-SADAT HOLDS MEETING TO DEFINE CABINET SESSIONS

NC171444 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] This morning President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat held a meeting at the Cabinet headquarters attended by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Security Dr Muhmud Dawud and Minister of Supply and Internal Trade Ahmad Nuh. Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said after the meeting that it was decided to hold a Cabinet meeting once every month under President as-Sadat, which will be attended by the governors and which will be called the plenary Cabinet meeting.

A limited cabinet meeting will be held once every 2 weeks under President as-Sadat or the vice president or Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din.

He added that it was also decided at the meeting that the deputy prime ministers will meet once every week in the form of a committee. He said that President as-Sadat will hold periodical meetings with the National Democratic Party leaderships at the party's club in Cairo twice a month on Thursdays. On the other two Thursdays the president will devote one Thursday to visiting lower Egypt and the other Thursday to visiting upper Egypt to acquaint himself on the spot with the masses' problems.

Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said that in his talk with the ministers of agriculture and supply, President as-Sadat centered on resolving the food security questions and on drawing up an urgent and long-range plan for decisive efforts in confronting high prices and lowering them whenever possible.

AS-SADAT TO PRESIDE OVER CABINET MEETING 19 MAY

NC171434 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 17 May--At 0930 Monday the new governors will take the constitutional oath in the presence of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat at the 'Abidin Palace. At 1000 the same day President as-Sadat will preside over the plenary Cabinet session, which includes the ministers and all the governors, at the 'Abidin Palace.

KHALIL LEAVES FOR MEDICAL CHECKUP IN U.S.

NC161030 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1026 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 16 May--National Democratic Party Deputy Leader Dr Mustafa Khalil and Mrs Khalil left Cairo for Washington today for medical checkups. Khalil's visit to Washington is expected to last about 15 days.

NEW NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

NC162235 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 16 May--An announcement was today made concerning new adjustments in the National Democratic Party's [NDP] leadership. According to these adjustments, the party's deputy chairman, Muhammad Husni Mubarak, will be responsible for the party's secretariat general and will be assisted by three assistant secretaries: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il; the minister of state for the presidency and the supervisor of education and information, Mansur Hasan; and Albert (Barsum) Salamah.

These adjustments, which are due to be published in tomorrow's edition of AKHBAR AL-YAWM, also include the appointment of Deputy Prime Minister Fikri Makram 'Ubayd as the chairman of the party's permanent council, while Dr Mustafa Khalil will assume the post of NDP deputy chairman and will be responsible for the party's foreign contacts. Mr 'Abd al-Latif (Baltiyah) will be responsible for the party's secretariat in the Cairo Governorate.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT APPOINTS GOVERNORS 16 MAY

NC160850 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat has issued a decision appointing Dr Na'im Abu Talis governor of Alexandria, Eng Dr Mahmud Amin 'Abd al-Hafiz governor of Al-Jizah, Eng Tawfiq Hamid Kararah governor of Ad-Daqahliyah, Labib Muhammad Zamzam governor of Al-Buhayrah, Dr Muhammad Sabri Zaki governor of Aswan, Fu'ad 'Aziz Ghali governor of south Sinai, Muhammad Kamal al-Imam al-Hadidi governor of Al-Miyah, Muhammad Ahmad Labib governor of Bani Suwayf, Tharwat Taha 'Atallah governor of Sawhaj, Yusuf Sabri Abu Talib governor of north Sinai, 'Umar 'Abd al-Akhir governor of Al-Qalyubiyah, Eng 'Abd ar-Rashid 'Abd ar-Rahim Mansur governor of Kafr ash-Shaykh and Eng 'Isam Radi 'Abd al-Hamid Radi governor of Damietta.

MUBARAK DENIES CHANGE OF GOVERNORATES TO REGIONS

NC151655 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met at noon today at the prime minister's headquarters with Deputy Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and Cabinet Secretary General Counselor 'Adil 'Abd al-Baqi.

Answering a reporter's question, Vice President Mubarak denied reports that the republic would be divided into regions instead of governorates. He said the governorates will remain as they are in their present form.

GHALI MEETS WITH OUTGOING SWISS ENVOY

NC171442 Cairo MENA in English 1400 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Cairo, May 17 (MENA)--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali today received the Swiss ambassador in Cairo to bid him farewell, as he was transferred to another post in Switzerland. They reviewed the situation in the Middle East within the framework of the constant consultation between the two countries, since the visit by Ghali to Switzerland February last.

They also reviewed the cordial bilateral ties between Egypt and Switzerland. Dr. Ghali, while bidding the Swiss ambassador farewell, paid tribute to his role in enhancing biliateral ties.

JORDAN'S KING HUSAYN ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN170850 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 17 May--Jordan's King Husayn arrived here this morning on a short visit to Iraq for talks with President Saddam Husayn.

Leaders' Meeting

JN171228 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 17 May--President Saddam Husayn and King Husayn of Jordan held a closed session at noon today. INA has learned that the meeting, which lasted about an hour and a half, dealt with the latest developments in the Arab area, developments in regard to the Palestinian issue and ways to consolidate the Arab struggle to confront the plots of capitulation and defeatism. The meeting also dealt with relations between the two fraternal countries in various fields, with the horizons for developing cooperation between them on behalf of the issues of Arab struggle and in order to consolidate the economic structure, and the foundations for construction and development in the two fraternal countries.

Official Talks

JN172035 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 17 May--Official talks between Iraq and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan began here this evening. The Iraqi side was led by President Saddam Husayn, while the Jordanian side was led by His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

At the outset of the talks President Saddam Husayn said that any relationship between two fraternal countries in the context of the Arab homeland and in the interest of the Arab nation enjoys our attention, encouragement and pride, even if Iraq is not a party in this relationship. The president added: It is natural that we seek to build developed fraternal relations with all Arab countries, but special relations must characterize the one homeland and the one nation. These special relations are brought about by several geographical and historical factors. The result of the interaction of all of these factors produces a new factor and a new state as well.

President Saddam Husayn went on to say: Therefore, it is natural for us to say that the relationship between Iraq and Jordan has long been characterized by special relations, evident in the similarity of the people's habits and in the geographical and historical relationship. President Saddam Husayn noted that these factors play an important role in bringing viewpoints closer and in strengthening the ties of fraternity, contributing to the new relations between Iraq and Jordan. He said: This relationship has not been connected with the temporary circumstantial factors on either our or your part, nor has it been a response to them, as much as it has been connected with and will remain connected with greater and more comprehensive factors; namely, the welfare of the Arab nation now and in the future and the joint effort to preserve an important and basic aspect of the Arab nation's heritage, whenever duty requires.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that the most important goal we seek to achieve is the safeguarding of the Arab nation's sovereignty, honor and dignity against the enemy, which has usurped the Palestinian territory.

At the outset of his talks the president welcomed His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal and his accompanying delegation. He also expressed his great pride in the development of relations between the two fraternal countries, as well as in the development of their joint understanding of the vital and basic issues that concern the Arab nation now and in the future.

In his statement during the talks His Majesty King Husayn expressed his appreciation of President Saddam Husayn and of the Iraqi Government and people for their stands of support and fraternal aid. He stressed that the fraternal relationship between the two fraternal countries will grow stronger daily, in the interest of the Arab nation and of the future of its people.

The talks, which were permeated by an atmosphere of frankness and full understanding of all issues under discussion, dealt with the latest developments in the Arab region. The two sides also continued their discussion of the basic aspects of the issues brought up during this morning's closed meeting between President Saddam Husayn and His Majesty King Husayn. In addition the talks dealt with the fraternal cooperative relations between the two fraternal countries and with methods of consolidating them in various fields, thus contributing to building the two countries' economic structure and to strengthening their struggle against colonialism and Zionism.

The Iraqi side to the talks comprised RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim; RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan; RCC members and Deputy Prime Ministers Na'im Haddad, Tariq 'Aziz and 'Adnan Khayrallah; Transport and Communications Minister Sa'dun Ghaydan; RCC Secretary Staff Col Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah; Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi; Culture and Information Minister and head of the honorary mission accompanying his majesty the king Latif Nasif Jasim; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

The Jordanian side comprised Prime Minister and Foreign Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi, Court Minister 'Amir Khammash, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, Commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces Lt Gen Zayd ibn Shakir and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Departure From Baghdad

JN180912 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May--King Husayn of Jordan left Baghdad for home at noon today at the end of a 2-day official visit to Iraq, during which he held talks with President Saddam Husayn. King Husayn was accorded an official sendoff at Baghdad international airport led by President Saddam Husayn. King Husayn described his visit to Iraq as a good one during which a unified and joint appraisal had been made with regard to the nature of the dangers facing the Arab nation and to the ways of confronting these dangers.

In a statement to the INA, King Husayn said: The visit has enabled us to discuss everything related to our one country, one march and one aim. We reviewed the problems of our nation, the international problems and all the recent developments.

King Husayn added: We reached good results in making a unified and joint appraisal with regard to the nature of the dangers facing our nation so that we all could confront them in a manner serving our nation's interests, preserving our nation's character and serving the future generations.

King Husayn reiterated Jordan's support for Iraq with all its resources and energies. He added: If we are facing a danger menacing the Arab nation's fate along the confrontation lines, Iraq is also facing dangers menacing the Arab land and Arab man.

In conclusion, King Husayn said: My visit to Iraq was one to my kinfolk and to a great man, my dear brother President Saddam Husayn whom I love, respect and support with all my energies and potentials out of my faith in his noble Arab character and his loyalty to this nation.

IRAQI PAPER: IRAN SERVING U.S. INTERVENTION SCHEMES

LD151401 Baghdad ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 11 May 80 p 2

[Faysal Zaki article: "Who Defends the Gulf?"]

[Excerpts] Reports from Washington indicate that the U.S. administration is busy preparing to stir more problems, disturbances and sedition in the Arab homeland, and the Arab Gulf area, with the aim of preparing the ground for direct intervention operations in the area's internal affairs and achieving well-known imperialist, aggressive political, economic and military objectives. The reports affirm that U.S. organs are working seriously to implement National Security Adviser Brzezinski's program to export panic and spread dissension, chaos and tension in many parts of the world through cooperation between the CIA, the Pentagon, the U.S. State Department and their agents. The reports also affirm that the U.S. departments concerned have adopted the existing Iranian example, with all the chaos, disturbance, disruption, sabotage, aggressive tendencies, racial hatred and backward reactionary attitudes that it represents, as the living example of what must be used in spreading disturbances and conflicts in order to impose U.S. domination, implement colonialist schemes, protect monopolist interests and continue to plunder the people's wealth.

Although the client Persian regime long ago went far toward implementing the U.S. plan for the area in both Iranian domestic policy, with the deteriorating economic, social, security and cultural situation to which it led, and Iranian foreign policy, toward Iran's neighbors, the Arab Gulf, the Arab nation, the liberation movement and the nonaligned states, this rancorous racist regime has exhausted all its potential, tricks and slogans, has been exposed on the domestic, Arab and international levels and has become incapable of offering any further service to its masters in Washington and Tel Aviv.

Defending Arab land and national sovereignty and the restoration of Arab rights in Palestine, the three Arab islands, Shatt al-'Arab, Sinai and the Golan calls for a serious and responsible national stand leading to the formulation of a comprehensive and all-embracing Arab strategy for resistance, steadfastness, liberation and unity.

It is clearer than ever today that the task of defending the Arab Gulf's territory, waters, skies, natural wealth and national entity is the responsibility of its sons, popular forces and nationalist regimes and not that of foreign forces lying in wait for it and coveting its wealth and territories.

The national battle against U.S. movements, colonialist intervention attempts and Persian expansionist and aggressive ambitions is part and parcel of the central battle against the imperialist-Zionist enemy as well as against the diseases of the present Arab reality, which is suffering division, disruption, backwardness, weakness and the surrender of one of the Arab regimes--As-Sadat's regime--which is joining the nation's enemies in the same trench.

The Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and its revolution in Iraq, with all the political, military, economic and geographic weight they represent and with all the principles, stands, and values to which they adhere, will continue to be loyal to the honorable national objectives and to devote all the Iraqi region's capabilities and material and manpower potential to the service of the national liberation struggle aims, boosting the Arab nation's independence, sovereignty and strengthing and confronting the dangers and challenges facing this or that part of the Arab homeland.

OFFICIAL RETURNS HOME AFTER MEETINGS IN BUDAPEST

JN161845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1850 GMT 16 May 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 18 May--'Aziz Sharif, secretary general of the Iraqi Peace and Solidarity Council, returned here this evening after participating in two meetings held in Budapest to prepare for the people's parliament conference to be held in the Japanese capital in September. Sharif said that the two meetings called on the world to work for arms race limitation and struggle against war-like manifestations. The confereees also asserted support for the Palestinian people's struggle to restore their national rights to self-determination and return to their homeland.

ERITREAN OFFICIAL ENDS VISIT TO IRAQ

JN181237 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May--Ramadan Mohamed Nur, secretary general of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front, left Baghdad for Abu Dhabi today at the end of 2-week visit to Iraq. The Eritrean official said that his talks with Ba'th Party National Command officials dealt with the latest developments on the Eritrean arena and with the relations between the party and front. Ramadan Mohamed Nur praised Iraq's support for the Eritrean revolution and Iraq's stands supporting and backing the Eritrean revolution's tenacious struggle.

MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD 18 MAY

JN181602 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May--Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, Mauritanian president, prime minister and chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery, arrived here this afternoon.

KENYAN DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD 18 May

JN181442 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May--Kiprono Nicolas Biwott, Kenyan minister of state (without portfolio) in the office of the president, arrived here this afternoon at the head of a delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq. Mr Biwott told INA that the delegation will discuss with Iraqi officials ways to strengthen bilateral relations in all fields and will review Arab-African relations. The delegation includes representatives from the ministries of foreign affairs, economic planning and transport and communications.

KING HUSAYN RETURNS FROM IRAQ VISIT 18 MAY

JN181228 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 May 80

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn returned to Amman at noon today following a 2-day visit to Iraq, during which he held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on the comprehensive cooperation among the Arab countries in light of the resolutions of the Arab summits in Baghdad and Tunis.

During the visit, his majesty and President Saddam Husayn also discussed relations between the two fraternal countries and the promotion of joint cooperation in the service of the two fraternal peoples' interests.

His majesty was received by Crown Prince Hasan, the senate president, the speaker of the National Consultative Council and the ministers.

SOURCES REPORT HUSAYN TO VISIT USSR, PRC IN JUNE

JN181016 Doha QNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Beirut, 18 May--Citing well-informed Jordanian sources, the Lebanese newspaper AS-SAFIR says today that the Jordanian monarch will tour the USSR, PRC, DPRK and Finland during June.

The paper quotes the same sources as saying that the Jordanian monarch's talks with Soviet officials will touch on supplying the Jordanian Army with some sophisticated Soviet arms.

KING HUSAYN NOTES PROBLEMS IN RELATIONS WITH SYRIA

NC161404 Beirut AL-BAYRAQ in Arabic 14 May 80 pp 1, 7

[Excerpt] Amman--King Husayn of Jordan will begin a 2-day visit to Iraq Saturday. He will then pay visits to the Soviet Union, North Korea, China and Finland.

King Husayn announced this last night during his meeting with the members of the General Secretariat of the Arab Journalists Union.

During this interview King Husayn pointed out that some flaws exist in relations between Jordan and Syria as a result of a feeling among the Syrian brothers that Jordan played some part in the recent events in Syria. As a responsible official, I say that this is not true at all, and I know nothing of this. We are against interference in the affairs of the brothers. How can we permit something to be done to others that we do not accept for ourselves?

He said that he met with President Hafiz al-Asad in Belgrade, and that the Syrian prime minister will visit Amman shortly. The Jordanian information minister will also visit Damascus Saturday. He denied the existence of any Arab initiative outside the framework of the Arab summit.

King Husayn pointed out that Jordan is against axes and polarization of the Arab consensus. He was referring to the "steadfastness and confrontation" group.

He said that the Lebanese problem has not been handled properly. It is a timebomb which can be set off by anyone. We supported the brothers in Syria when they entered Lebanon to stop the fighting, but the people in Lebanon must now solve the problem. Maintaining the status quo is a waste of energy and continuous attrition.

He said that the Lebanese problem will be solved easily if the Arabs can reach an agreement.

King Husayn affirmed that the U.S. solution has failed completely, and the dialog with Europe could be helpful in achieving an honorable solution. Arab efforts, including those of the PLO, helped to convince Europe of the failure of the U.S. method for a solution.

King Husayn warned against keeping the Arab territories under occupation, "because this means changing their character and status and more suffering for their population."

He said that the deportation of the mayors of Hebron and Halhul and the Islamic qadi of Hebron from the occupied West Bank is "an example of the inhuman attitude which the Israeli occupation is maintaining in defiance of the world and the UN Security Council resolutions regarding their return to their city."

The Jordanian monarch added: "There can be no solution to the Palestinian problem without the Palestinians, without recognition of their legitimate right to decide their fate and future on their national land and without the return of the occupied Arab territories, especially Jerusalem, to Arab sovereignty."

JORDAN CALLS FOR SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON DEPORTEES

JN170610 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Yesterday Jordan officially called for a UN Security Council session in the wake of Israel's decision banning the three deportees from returning to their homeland. It is to be recalled that the three were deported from the occupied West Bank. The Security Council is due to debate the Jordianian request and to hold a public session.

Dr Hazim Nusaybah, Jordanian permanent representative to the United Nations, has sent a message to the Security Council chairman pointing out that Jordan views Israel's challenge to the Security Council as extremely serious. The message explains that the Israeli Government officially told the UN secretary general that it will not abide by the Security Council resolution.

The Security Council adopted a resolution on 8 May calling on Israel to revoke the illegal deportation procedures and to facilitate the return of the deportees.

MINISTER OF STATE DEPARTS FOR ISLAMABAD CONFERENCE

JN171232 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim left Amman for Islamabad this morning to lead Jordan's delegation to the conference of Islamic foreign ministers, which began its work there today.

Pre-Departure Statement

JN162110 Doha QNA in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Amman, 16 May--Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian minister of state for foreign affairs, has said that Jordan will submit an important document on Jerusalem to the Islamic foreign ministers conference which will begin in Islamabad tomorrow, Saturday.

In a statement to QNA, Mr al-Qasim said that the document will include figures, facts, maps and charts pertaining to the holy city and the measures being taken by the Israeli authorities to judaize it. He said that Jerusalem's status requires this holy city to be the primary concern of the Arab and Islamic countries and all peace-loving countries in the world.

Mr al-Qasim added that Jordan believes that peace cannot be established in the area without Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, or without granting the Palestinian people their right to self-determination on their land. He said: Jerusalem's ordeal and the real dangers to which it is subjected necessitate a higher level of effectiveness and actual implementation of resolutions taken on Jerusalem. He pointed out that in view of its huge resources, the Islamic and Arab nation is able to offer a great deal to save the Holy City.

Replying to a PNA question on the most prominent issues which the Jordanian delegation will raise at the conference, Al-Qasim said that the issue of Jerusalem and the occupied Arab territories is Jordan's central and basic cause. He asserted that Jordan once again condemns the superpowers' interference in the domestic affairs of any country. He said that the Islamic countries' concern over the situation in Afghanistan should not divert their attention from the central cause, the Palestine question and the 13-year-old Israeli occupation. He added that Jordan condemns the military operation in Iran as well.

Regarding the Jordanian stand on the Islamic pact draft resolution which will be submitted to the Islamabad conference, Al-Qasim said that the Jordanian Government concentrates on the importance of cooperation and coordination among the Islamic states in coping with the threats and challenges that might face them in any part of the Islamic world, particularly if we realize that this cooperation--which is based on the Islamic principles--further stresses the principles adopted by international organizations, bodies and charters. He said that this cooperation should keep us far from polarization in favor of any of the international pacts.

On the issue of the three Palestinian leaders who were deported recently, Al-Qasim said that Jordan will raise this issue with the Arab group there. He added that Jordan is now making contacts to call for the convocation of the Security Council in order to issue a new decision supporting the previous one and stressing the importance of its implementation. He emphasized that he has advised the Jordanian ambassadors abroad to brief the various countries on this issue.

Al-Qasim revealed that he has summoned the ambassadors of the superpowers in Amman within the last two days. Al-Qasim said that he felt they understood the deportees issue, especially the fact that the Hebron and Halhul mayors won in public elections, held under the Israeli military domain. The minister said that Jordan will also take part in the meetings of the Jerusalem Committee which will convene in Islamabad under M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperations. The meetings will last for two days and will be held in Islamabad following the Islamic conference. Discussions during the meetings will center around the Jerusalem issue.

The Jordanian minister will leave for Islamabad tomorrow, Saturday.

HEAVY SHELLING REPORTED IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

Security Force Deployment

TA182028 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The terrorist forces in southern Lebanon today reinforced their positions north of the Litani with artillery and bazookas. Travellers who came to the good fence said that many ammunition trucks are moving along the Lebanese coastal road toward the terrorist positions. There was great tension today in the Christian enclave, in expectation of the possibility of a resumption of the firing that was stopped last night. The security forces also deployed today in expectation of this possibility. Our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir reports from southern Lebanon:

[Begin recording] The price the enclaves paid in yesterday's severe artillery incident was cheap in comparison with the amount of firing. After the shooting, which began on Thursday, many of the inhabitants left to sleep outside the villages, so the terrorists' firing on Saturday found them relatively protected.

What is the reason for this sudden provocation by the terrorists? Security personnel in the north attribute this to the success of the IDF operations against the terrorists at the end of last week, operations whose exact nature has not yet been publicized. During that activity two sector commanders from the As-Sa'iqah organization in the south were killed and senior commanders and many other terrorists were seriously injured.

The terrorists' reaction was against an objective whose reaction is not as strong as that of Israel: the strip of enclaves. However, the Christian militias' artillery fired yesterday as they have not fired for a very long time. The terrorists' artillery batteries north of the Litani were hard hit and terrorist neighborhoods in An-Nabatiyyah, Tyre and Sidon absorbed direct hits. The evaluation here, therefore, is that the artillery dialog has not yet ended.

Today passengers who arrived from the north said that the terrorists north of the Litani received sizable reinforcements of artillery and ammunition this morning. The Sunday morning prayers were cancelled in the Christian enclave to prevent too many people collecting in the [word indistinct] churches. Experienced officers in the area are saying that the renewal of the firing is only a question of time here in southern Lebanon. [end recording]

Israeli Gunboats

NC172021 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Israel is still bent on esclating the tense situation in the southern area. Reports this evening say that several Israeli gunboats, accompanied by helicopters, have appeared off the coast of Al-Buss, Ar-Rashidiyah and Ash-Shawakir. At 2050 Israeli gunboats shelled the Wadi 'Alma coast. The coastal guns returned the fire against the naval shelling. Artillery exchanges are still being heard in Sidon. We have just received a report that several Israeli gunboats have been observed off Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda, and that fire has been exchanged with them.

Galilee Activity

TA171929 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 May 80

[Excerpt] The IDF's investigation has revealed that the shells fired at the Galilee panhandle early in the evening were Katyushas. There were no casualties and no damage was caused. The IDF did not return fire.

Broadcasting stations have reported that heavy shelling was directed at the terrorist bases in Tyre, Ar-Rashidiyah, Arnun and An-Nabatiyah in the afternoon and evening. Our correspondent Mikha'el Gurdus reports that these reports indicate that the areas of Suhmur and (Yahmur) in the southwest part of the Lebanese valley, where the Syrian army is located, were also shelled.

Israeli Shelling

NC171845 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 17 May 80

[17 May statement by responsible military source of Central Command--read by announcer]

[Text] At 1730 the Zionist-separatist alliance carried out a violent artillery shelling of An-Nabatiyah as well as the townships of Arnun and Kafr Tibnit. The shelling came from Marj 'Uyun, Al-Qulay'ah and the surrounding areas. The joint forces returned the fire against the Zionist-separatists. The alien shelling against these national areas is still going on.

Complaint to UN Security Council

NC171655 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis today held a meeting with Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, at which they reviewed the situation in southern Lebanon in the light of available reports.

It was decided to lodge a complaint with the UN Security Council while reserving Lebanon's right to call for a council meeting as it deems appropriate. The discussions at the meeting also dealt with the evaluation of the results of Minister Butrus' talks in London, particularly concerning the promised European initiative.

Haddad's Actions

TA171110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] The terrorists shelled other areas in southern Lebanon this afternoon and they are now shelling the Shi'ite villages in the eastern enclave with mortars and artillery. Our correspondent in the north Yehezqel Hame'iri reports that, in addition to the towns of Al-Qulay'ah and Marj 'Uyun, fire is now directed at the Shi'ite villages of Dibbin, Dayr Mimas and Kafr Killa.

This afternoon the militias fired several warning shells on Tyre. Militia commander Sa'd Haddad has notified UNIFIL headquarters at An-Naqurah that if the terrorists do not cease fire, his forces will intensely shell Tyre. The exchanges of fire began early in the morning and increased around noon. Heavy damages were caused in the enclave villages, but there have been no reports on casualties.

VOL Reports

NC162147 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 2115 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Since 2200 today Israeli gunboats have been cruising along the Lebanese coastal area supported by helicopters flying over the coast. Our correspondent reports that clashes broke out between the Israelis and the Palestinians in [word indistinct]. The gunboats shelling [word indistinct] escorted by helicopters.

Three minutes ago our correspondent reported that an Israeli battalion supported by armored vehicles crossed Wadi as-Saluqi which separates Majdal Slim and Shaqra. In the western sector, the Israeli forces centered their artillery bombardment on the area.

Our correspondent confirms that an Israeli warship has been shelling Al-Qasimiyah from the sea while Israeli aircraft were flying over Al-Marwaniyah and shelling Al-Bayyadah and Ra's al-'Ayn. Our correspondent reports now that Sidon-Beirut road is precarious and dangerous because cars using the road are being subjected to Israeli shelling from gunboats.

'Widespread' Israeli Attack

NC162122 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] At this very moment Israeli Army units are carrying out widespread aggression against southern Lebanon in keeping with the Israeli policy of impudence and defiance of all the international codes. Taking part in this attack against the coastal strip and the western sector are Israeli land, sea and air forces. An urgent report from our correspondent in Sidon says that an Israeli force estimated to be a battalion accompanied by a number of armored vehicles has crossed the Lebanese-Israeli borders to the Wadi as-Suluqi area which links the Majd as-Silm with Shaqrah.

Reports from the western sector say that an Israeli warship accompanied by several boats suddenly appeared along the coast off the Al-Qasimiyah area on the Sidon-Tyre highway, accompanied by several helicopters. The coastal defenses opened fire against them. One of the helicopters flew over the Al-Marwaniyah township, firing several flares. Later several gunboats made their way from the Al-Bayyadah area to Ra's al-'Ayn and Ar-Bashidiyah in the direction of As-Saksakiyah, while another boat headed for Al-'Aqbiyah. One of the helicopters was observed flying over the aforementioned area, firing acoustic bombs. Antiaircraft fire was opened on the helicopter.

Security sources at 2130 said the Sidon-Beirut highway has become dangerous and that it would be wise to avoid using this highway because of firing by Israeli gunboats against cars passing. Three long-range missiles fell along the coast off the town of Sidon. Local sources said these missiles were fired from the border strip area of the Ad-Dardaram plain near Al-Khiyam.

Israeli Overflights

NC161821 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] According to reports from the south this evening, the artillery of the border strip militias in Tall an-Nuhas opened heavy fire at Qa'qa'iyat al-Jisr at 1445 today. At the same time An-Nabatiyah and the neighboring villages came under artillery fire from the Al-Qulay' and Marj 'Uyun area. Reports also say that Israeli aircraft flew over An-Nabatiyah area at 1815 today.

More Shelling

TA161806 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] The terrorists in southern Lebanon have been shelling the Christian villages of Al-Qulay'ah and Marj 'Uyun for 2 hours now. Major Haddad's forces are returning fire. Our military correspondent Roni Daniyyel reports that dozens of shells have landed on the two villages.

PHALANGIST DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR DAMASCUS

NC171253 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] This morning a Lebanese Phalangist Party delegation left Beirut for Damascus. The delegation includes Deputy Dr George Sa'adah and lawyer Karim Baqraduni. During its stay in Damascus, the delegation will hold contacts with senior Syrian officials on the situation in Lebanon. The delegation is scheduled to return to Beirut this evening.

Delegation Returns

NC171835 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] The Phalangist delegation returned from Damascus at 1700 today after a series of consultations with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Brig Gen Muhammad al-Khuli. During the meeting the Syrian side hosted a banquet in honor of the Phalangist delegation. Deputy George Sa'adah and lawyer Karim Baqraduni went to Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil's house to brief him on the results of their talks with Syrian officials.

ARAB LEAGUE'S AS-SID MEETS AL-JUMAYYIL, SHAM'UN

NC171830 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 17 May 80

[Excerpt] Hammad as-Sid, representative of the Arab League secretariat in the Arab follow-up committee, this afternoon visited Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and then Camille Sham'un. He held talks with the two leaders on various affairs in Lebanon and the area. As-Sid met with Al-Jumayyil at 1500 and Al-Matn Deputy Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil attended the meeting. During the 2-hour meeting they held delicate talks.

After the meeting As-Sid said to reporters:

[Begin As-Sid recording] I held a dialog with Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and Amin al-Jumayyil 4 months ago. We continue this dialog on Lebanese problems which concern all the Arabs and the Arab League in particular. This dialog comes after my meetings at the United Nations. I met again with Shaykh Pierre to exchange views on the Lebanese situation proceeding from our mutual agreements, Arab agreements and the unanimous Arab resolutions. These agreements are aimed at extending Lebanese legality throughout Lebanon and encouraging the dialog among the Lebanese, Syrians and Palestinians.

The Arab League and its secretary general have often repeated the need to strengthen President Sarkis' efforts to achieve national accord. I have often repeated that the Lebanese question can only be solved through national accord among the Lebanese factions, and through dialog with the Syrians and Palestinians. I believe that with the dialog I held today we have begun the first step. I hope the dialog will be fruitful. [end recording]

AL-HUSS RECEIVES TWO PALESTINIAN LEADERS

NC172211 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] At 2000 today Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss received at his Ad-Dawhah residence a Palestinian delegation comprised of Abu Jihad and Abu al-Walid. During the meeting the conferees discussed the developments in southern Lebanon.

KHADDAM ON U.S. MIDEAST POLICY, SYRIAN-USSR RELATIONS

JN171434 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Damascus, 17 May--Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has stressed that the situation in the region is complicated due to the imbalance between us and Israel, as a result of the U.S. change from support of Israel to actual participation in its plots of aggression. He added that this dictates the re-establishment of the balance through the introduction of new factors capable of accomplishing this. In a compreshensive statement to Kuwait newspapers and the KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY that was published by TISHRIN today, Khaddam said: We in syria are discussing the new qualitative factor that must be achieved. We will achieve this factor. Our aim in this is to establish a strategic balance between Syria and Israel.

Khaddam added: There is a great gap in Arab understanding of the nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict. (Word indistinct) they said that Israel is a grave danger, but they practice the reverse of this concept. Khaddam took the stand in regard to the United States as an example. He said: Some of us still consider the United States the savior. How can we believe that the United States is capable of giving the Arabs their rights at a time when we see Carter deciding to support a UN resolution banning Israeli settlements and then retracting the vote the next day? Khaddam stressed that there is no U.S. resolution or policy on the Middle East. In fact there is an Israeli policy, adopted by the United States in the Middle East.

He said that the United States is an enemy like Israel, whereas some Arabs consider it our friend. How can the United States be considered a friend? It supplies Israel with all of its political, economic and military needs. On our relations with the Soviet Union, Khaddam said: This country has given us three times the military aid we have received from the Arab states. He added: We are thinking now--and this is what I mean by the new qualitiative factor in the region--we are thinking of means that will develop our relations with the Soviet Union on a qualitative level. This is what we are now discussing.

SOVIET PARLIAMENTRY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN161015 Doha QNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Damascus, 16 May--A Soviet parliamentary delegation under Antanas Stasevich Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived in Damascus today on a 1-week visit to Syria. During the visit the Soviet paraliamentary delegation will hold talks with a delegation from the Syrian People's Assembly, with the purpose of promoting bilateral parliamentary relations and coordinating their stands in international parliamentary conferences. The Soviet paraliamentary delegation will also hold talks with Palestine National Council [PNC] Chairman Khalid al-Fahum on ways of bolstering relations between the Soviet Union and the PNC.

Meet Officials

JN172025 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 May 80

[Excerpts] At 1300 today, People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud Hadid received the Soviet parliamentary delegation under Antanas Stasevich Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium [title as heard]. After welcoming the guest parliamentarian delegation, Hadid outlined the guidelines of legislative work in Syria and the role played by the People's Assembly in Syria's legislative fields. Hadid then spoke about the nature of the Arab nation's struggle against Zionism and world imperialism. He said: We are fighting two battles, one in building ourselves and our economic power and the other a national struggle against Zionist Israel backed by world imperialism, which is led by the United States of America. Hadid also noticed the important and basic role of the socialist bloc, led by the friendly Soviet Union, in the decisive and influential confrontation of the Camp David parties.

The comrade deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium expressed thanks to the People's Assembly for inviting the Soviet parliamentary delegation to visit Syria. He underlined the importance of the exchange of visits between the two countries to further strengthening the march of bilateral friendship and cooperation. He said: We highly admire the struggling and firm stands of your steadfast country. We admire your confrontation of the imperialist designs in the area. We also admire your firm confrontation of the Camp David accords, which are sponsored by U.S. imperialism. He also noted the successful visits exchanged between the two friendly countries at the highest levels. He particularly noted President Hafiz al-Asad's recent visit to Moscow. This visit contributed once again to further entrenching relations of friendship and to discussion of various political developments in the Middle East and the entire world.

SYRIA, USSR SIGN ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROTOCOL

JN152022 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Syria and the Soviet Union signed a protocol on economic, scientific and technical cooperation in the conference hall of the Central Bank this evening. On the Syrian Arab side, the protocol was signed by Dr Salim Yasin, minister of state for planning affairs; on the Soviet side, it was signed by Semen Skachkov, chairman of the Soviet committee for external economic relations.

In a speech he delivered during the signing ceremony, Dr Salim Yasin expressed thanks to Skachkov and the delegation members for the efforts they have exerted to review past projects and develop them. Dr Yasin stressed that friendship between the Soviet and Syrian governments and people is a strong one based on solid foundations that guarantee the two countries mutual interests. Dr Yasin said that the Syrian people and government highly appreciate cooperation and friendship with Socialist bloc countries with the Soviet Union at their head. Skachkov stressed the Soviet Union's desire to strengthen and develop friendship with the Syrian Government and people.

The protocol stipulates that a general assessment be made of the Soviet and Syrian parties' commitment to the implementation of the development projects underway in Syria in accordance with timetables agreed upon between the two parties. The protocol also includes stipulations on the evaluation of trade exchange between the two countries for the past 5 years and on the exchange of viewpoints concerning the long-term trade agreement for the next 5 years with the purpose of developing it. The protocol also covers other scopes of scientific and technical cooperation and ways of developing in the future.

JORDANIAN INFORMATION MINISTER ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN171700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Damascus--Jordanian Information Minister Dr Sa'id at-Tal arrived in Damascus at noon today, leading an information delegation on an official visit to Syria. He was welcomed at the unified border point in Darba by Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, the mayor of Dar'a, the assistant information minister, the director general of the radio and television company and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

Speaking to a SANA correspondent, Dr at-Tal said: My visit to Syria comes at the invitation of my colleague and friend, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad. This visit is an honest translation of the two countries' efforts to further support and entrench Arab solidarity, in order to cope with the challenges that threaten our Arab existence. The Jordanian information minister added: I would like to assure every Arab citizen in the two fraternal countries, as well as in the entire Arab homeland, that we in Damascus and in Amman face the same threat, which jeoporidzes our fate and our pan-Arab existence. Therefore, we should meet this responsibility and prepare ourselves very well, so that we can cope with this threat and, consequently, ward it off.

KHADDAM RECEIVES IRAQI AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS

JN171441 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1355 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Damascus, 17 May--Syrian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs received Isma'il Hammudi Husayn, new Iraqi ambassador to Syria. During a meeting today, Khaddam received a copy of Ambassador Husayn's credentials.

DECREES ISSUED ON PEASANTS, AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

JN160816 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 16 May 80

[Text of legislative decrees Nos. 297 and 31, issued by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on 13 and 14 May respectively]

[Text] In accordance with the provisions of Law No. 161 of 1958 and its amendments, the president of the republic decrees the following:

Article 1: The chairman of the executive office of the Peasants General Federation will be appointed a member in the board of directors of the agrarian reforms establishment, which was formed in accordance with Decree No. 3126 of 1962, amended by Decree No. 1500 of 1964.

Article 2: This decree will be published and will be conveyed to those concerned for implementation.

Damascus, 13 May 1980

[Signed] President of the republic, Hafiz al-Asad.

In accordance with the provisions of the constitution, the president of the republic decrees the following:

Article 1:

First--It is inadmissible to own more than:

1. Irrigated Land:

A. 15 hectares in the Al-Ghutah area;
B. 20 hectares in the coastal area;
C. 25 hectares in the Al-Butayhah area and its dependent territories;
D. 30 hectares in the lands irrigated by means of large canals;
E. 40 hectares irrigated by pumps from the Euphrates, Al-Khabur and Tigris Rivers;
F. 45 hectares irrigated by water wells in the provinces of Al-Hasakah, Dayr az-Zawr and Ar-Raqqah;
G. 35 hectares in the other areas irrigated by pumps.

2. Unirrigated Lands Planted With Fruit Trees:

A. 30 hectares in the provinces of Latakia and Tartus;
B. 35 hectares in the other provinces, provided that the age of these trees exceeds 10 years. Every donum should include at least 10 trees. If the number of trees is less than 10, then the number of donums planted with trees, shall be counted in proportion to the number of trees divided by 10. If the age of the trees is between 5-10 years, the area will then become 40 hectares in the Latakia and Tartus and 45 hectares in the other provinces.

3. Unirrigated Lands.

A. 55 hectares in areas with rain averages exceeding 500mm, and 85 hectares in areas with rain averages ranging from 350mm to 500mm;
B. 140 hectares in areas in which the rain average is less than or equal to 350mm. This area will be increased to 200 hectares in the provinces of Al-Hasakah, Dayr az-Zawr and Ar-Raqqah.

Second--When the portion exceeding the maximum limit of land is confiscated, the landlord will be entitled to choose that portion. The Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reforms will specify the part to be owned by the landlord according to distribution and beneficiaries.

Article 2: The portions exceeding the average covered by this legislative decree will not be affected by the provisions of concessions stipulated in Article 2 of Legislative Decree No. 88 of 23 June 1963.

Article 3: All unirrigated areas that have been planted with trees or that have been changed to areas irrigated by water wells will be considered unirrigated areas, in accordance with the provisions of Article 9 of Legislative Decree 145 of 3 December 1966. These areas will be subject to the ownership ceiling defined by this legislative decree and will be defined by the landlord, if he wishes.

Article 4:

A. The landlord or his heirs are entitled to keep the maximum average of unirrigated land as defined in this legislative decree, in the following two cases:

1. If he plants his unirrigated land after the implementation of this legislative decree;
2. If he changes his unirrigated land to land irrigated by water wells with prior approval of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reforms.

B. If the unirrigated land is changed to irrigated land by exploitation of river waters or through the state's irrigation projects, the landlord will be entitled to keep the maximum average of irrigated land defined by this legislative decree, unless the land was planted with trees prior to the utilization of these waters.

All parts exceeding the above average will be confiscated in accordance with the provisions of this legislative decree.

C. All changes to be made by the landlord on irrigated land after the application of this legislative decree in order to evade implementation of its provisions will be null and void.

Article 5: All provisions stipulated in Law 161, 1958 and its amendments will be applied in a manner that does not contradict the provisions of this decree.

Article 6: This decree will be published and will be in force as of the date of its issuance.

Damascus, 14 May 1980

[Signed] President of the Republic Hafiz al-Asad.

ALGERIA

SOVIET PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT

LD172000 Algiers APS in English 1520 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Algiers, 17/5/80 (APS)--The Soviet parliamentary delegation led by Mr Sattar Nurmashevich Imashev, member of the foreign commission of the higher Soviet of the republic of Kazakhstan, member of the central commission of revision [as received] of the Russian Communist Party, currently on a visit to Algeria, is expected today in Annaba, where they are to visit the industrial complex of El Hadjar, and other sociocultural infrastructures. The Soviet delegation was received Wednesday by Mr Rabah Bitat, Political Bureau member, chairman of the National People's Assembly. Talks centered on the bilateral relations and the international situation. Both sides agreed on developing cooperation between the two Parliaments through regular meetings between Parliamentarians of the two countries and through the exchange of information and expertise.

On the other hand talks between APN's delegation led by Mr Djelloul Melaika, APN's vice chairman and the Soviet delegation led by Mr Imashev enabled the two sides to get mutually informed about efforts made by the Algerian and Russian peoples in the edification of socialist societies, on the results obtained so far and on the prospects of developing cooperation between the two countries.

During the toast said by Mr Melaika on the occasion of the dinner given at the honor of the Soviet delegation, he recalled the traditional relations of friendship between the two peoples.

In his reply, Mr Imashev declared that his country hails the good results achieved by the Algerian people who carries on his march towards socialism in conformity with the national charter and the FLN fourth congress resolutions. He added that his country appreciated too much Algeria's foreign policy, notably within the nonaligned movement, on the African field in the Arab world, and the role played by Algeria within the Arab steadfastness front.

LIBYA

AT-TURAYKI ON OIL WEAPON, LIBYAN DIPLOMATS IN U.S.

LD161133 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 14 May 80 p 19

[Hisham Talib report: "At-Turayki Calls on Arabs To Use Oil as Weapon; Libyan-Tunisian Relations Returning to Normal"]

[Text] Libyan Foreign Secretary Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki has called for Arab fronts to be open to Fedayeen action. Speaking at a press conference late last night before leaving for Islamabad, he said the Arabs must turn their attention to the Palestinian problem more than any other, because it represents the conflict with Zionism. He stressed that this was the Muslims' number one problem, to which all capabilities and weapons must be devoted.

He criticized those who shed tears for Afghan Muslims and said: Where do they stand toward events in Uganda and the Philippines and toward what is happening to the Muslims there? He wondered why no attempt is being made to discuss the attempt to invade Muslim Iran.

The Libyan official once again stated his country's demand that the Western countries pay compensation for the losses it suffered as a result of their fighting on Libyan territories, saying that Libya suffered losses and destruction when in a battle in which it had no interest. He said that international decisions have been made giving Libya the right to make such a claim. He called on the Arab countries to use all weapons, including the oil weapons, against the Zionist enemy, who "has used the West to serve his ends." He stressed in this regard the need for an Arab decision to cut off oil to Western countries that serve Israeli interests.

Replying to a question regarding Libyan-Tunisian relations, he referred to the historical ties between the two countries which, he said, developed following the "Djerba" unity declaration which was aborted by certain separatist elements. He said: Once those elements were gone, relations between the two countries went through a new stage, and contacts and coordination between us developed.

Speaking about the deportation of Libyan diplomats from the United States, he said that the United States and Britain see danger in Libya. The deportation of Libyan diplomats was unjustified, he said.

The Libyan foreign secretary then spoke about Arab-Iranian relations. He referred to the importance of strengthening Arab alliance with Iran, on the grounds that Iran now constitutes with the Arabs a joint front against Zionism. He denied that his country supports one Arab country against another and said that it is absolutely not in the Arab nation's interest to lose a strong ally [presumably Iran].

Concluding his conference, Dr At-Turayki said that Kuwaiti-Libyan relations are extremely close and that he wished that all Arab countries' relations could be like those between Kuwait and Libya in the field of joint economic projects. He described his talks with Minister of State 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn as very positive.

DPRK FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI

LD171003 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Tripoli--Chong Song-nam, DPRK minister of external economic affairs, arrived here this afternoon on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Meets Housing Secretary

LD172046 Tripoli JANA in English 1852 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Tripoli, May 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The General People's Committee secretary of housing this morning held a meeting with the Democratic Korean Republic's minister of external economic affairs and his accompanying delegation at the Foreign Secretariat. Discussion during the meeting centered on bilateral cooperation and means of developing and bolstering it.

OFFICIAL MEETS WITH GRENADA'S MAURICE BISHOP

LD161236 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Tripoli--Jadallah Azzuz at-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee, conferred last night with Maurice Bishop, the prime minister of Grenada, and the accompanying delegation now on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Aspects of bilateral cooperation and ways of strengthening and developing this cooperation were discussed at this meeting.

Bishop Departure

LD162252 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 May 80

[Excerpts] Tripoli--Maurice Bishop, prime minister of the Republic of Grenada, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this morning after visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

MAURITANIA

COMMENTARY EXTOLS SINO-MAURITANIAN COOPERATION

AB140935 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 13 May 80

[Station Commentary]

[Text] The countries of the Third World, witnesses to the precariousness of international relationships between rich and poor countries as a result of imperialist domination, these countries--namely of the Third World--cannot be but glad of the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation existing for almost 14 years between the people's Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the People's Republic of China, relations which have defied all the hazards of the international climate and have been strengthened in the period of anti-imperialist and anticolonialist struggle. These relations, owing to their highly positive (?spirit and content), have become a fine example of international relations because they are rigidly based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and [word indistinct], between two countries in a world where the most powerful seek to worsen the lot of the poorest. It is, therefore, not surprising that this cooperation, which is fruitful and beneficial for our country, is maintained in the face of the machinations of envious people, due to the efforts of our people during recent years.

The Mauritanian people, who are the sole beneficiaries of this cooperation linking our two countries, bow before it with respect and admiration, because it has been of great use to them in the implacable combat the country is waging against hunger, disease, thirst and underdevelopment in all its forms. It is, however, neither surprising nor fortuitous that the Mauritanian people and its national leaders deeply and sincerely saluted the recent visit made by the Chinese vice premier to Mauritania (?as a sign of gratitude) considering the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation which link the friendly peoples and governments of the two countries. Finally, it is also not surprising to see the importance which the Mauritanian people attach to the visit of the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state and government to the People's Republic of China, which began yesterday, at the invitation of chairman of the Chinese state council, Chairman Hua Guofeng, a visit whose results will certainly measure up to the aspirations of the peoples of the two countries.

Without a doubt, the Mauritanian people, who have managed to disentangle themselves--thanks to the will and the clairvoyance of their national leadership headed by Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala--from the fratricidal and murderous war of Western Sahara which profoundly shook her economy, endangered her national unity and led the country to the verge of destruction--without a doubt, the Mauritanian people who managed to extricate themselves from this unjustified and unjustifiable conflict [words indistinct] need the help and assistance of their real friends in order to counteract the effects of the war and the drought which have sorely tried her economy and made her lands uninhabitable. We are fully convinced that our Chinese friends will come to our aid in this time of sore trial, true to themselves in their tradition of friendship and militant solidarity with regards to the Mauritanian people.

Our firm conviction is that the Sino-Mauritanian cooperation which has always proved an exemplary cooperation between two states (?will always improve) and will be crowned with brilliant success in all economic political and diplomatic fields in the interest of the two countries and for the consolidation of world peace. It is this spirit of continuity and diversification of relations of cooperation between the two countries--which is consolidating itself, thanks to the solicitude of the Chinese and Mauritanian leaders--which constitutes for us a source of pride, and gives us every reason to believe in the survival of the Sino-Mauritanian cooperation.

SUDAN

KHARTOUM UNIVERSITY TO REOPEN IN JULY

JN171742 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Khartoum, May 17 (SUNA)--The University of Khartoum will reopen for normal study at the beginning of next July, a university council statement said today. The university was closed last March after violent action between rival student groups.

BRIEFS

KUWAITI ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri received today the credentials of the Kuwaiti ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary here, Khalifah Husayn. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 17 May 80 JN]

CABINET DISCUSSES AUTONOMY SUSPENSION, CARTER MESSAGE

TA181221 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Topping the agenda at the weekly Cabinet in Jerusalem this morning: the suspended autonomy negotiations. Prime Minister Begin was to report on a message he had received from President Carter and just a short while ago Israel's ambassador in Cairo, Eliyahu ben-Elisar, received a message for the prime minister handed over by Egypt's new foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali. The contents of the note have not been published, but are presumably being transmitted to the Cabinet. Over now to David Essing at the prime minister's office: [begin recording]

[Essing] Prime Minister Begin reported on the situation and on the message he received from U.S. President Jimmy Carter on Friday. Begin told the Cabinet that As-Sadat's second suspension of the autonomy negotiations had taken the United States by surprise as well. However, that urgent message from the Egyptian leader has not yet arrived in Jerusalem. Because of the sabbath it was not delivered yesterday. In any event, the Cabinet decided not to take any new decisions in the meantime.

Chief autonomy negotiator Yosef Burg also briefed the Cabinet and later he was asked by newsmen whether he thought Israel should take any new initiative to get the talks started again.

[Burg] I don't believe that today I have reason to give an answer in the affirmative.

[Question] Israel will not, then, if I understand correctly....

[Answer--interrupting] I understood correctly.

[Question] What is Israel's position at the moment, sir?

[Answer] We are always ready for negotiations. If someone else interrupts them, he is also responsible for their commencement.

[Essing] Asked if he has any idea when the negotiations might be resumed, Burg retorted: Sometime within the 20th century, if at all. And, on President as-Sadat's suspension, Burg replied: Israel is a country that respects itself and expects others to do so as well.

Other Cabinet business: Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman reported on the weekend's flareup in south Lebanon and on the situation in Judaea and Samaria. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir also spoke of his recent trip to Europe and Finance Minister Hurvitz reported on that big cost of living rise in April. The economic cabinet will be meeting tomorrow amid speculation that new austerity measures may be in the offering. This is David Essing at the prime minister's office. [end recording]

Resumption Up to Egypt

TA181308 Jersualem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] This morning the Cabinet heard reports on the current state of the autonomy negotiations. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says that the conception now is that it is necessary to proceed with the negotiations, assuming that it is Egypt that must come back to the negotiating table, especially since it has recently changed its opinion in various ways. President as-Sadat's message did not reach the prime minister's office while the debate was underway.

Carter Warning to Begin

TA181418 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 May 80

[Excerpt] The President of the United States has warned Israel that if it does not speed up the negotiations over the establishment of autonomy in the territories, there is no doubt that the European countries will take the initiative and bring about a complete change in the UN resolutions dealing with the Middle East and serving as the basis for the Camp David agreements.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says that this is the main point of the letter Carter sent to the prime minister. This morning Mr Begin brought what he said to the knowledge of the ministers.

LINOWITZ REPORTEDLY NOT TO RETURN TO ISRAEL SOON

TA180529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Linowitz has no intention of coming to this region for talks now. Linowitz spoke to Dr Burg about this at the end of last week.

BEGIN COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT'S SUSPENSION DECISION

TA161231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Back in Israel from Washington, U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis met with Prime Minister Begin this morning to discuss the suspension of the autonomy talks. David Essing reports: [begin recording]

[Essing] After Prime Minister Begin met with U.S. Ambassador Lewis, the situation is still unclear about when the autonomy negotiations will resume. Begin later told reporters that President as-Sadat's decision to again suspend the talks is incomprehensible to him. In any event, the prime minister says Israel will not alter its positions because of As-Sadat's tactics.

[Begin] We are not going to change our positions in connection with Jerusalem being the capital city and an indivisable city. We are not going to change our position concerning security and I said so yesterday. I have said so on many other occasions. Anyway, how can anybody imagine that, because of another surprise postponement, we shall change our basic positions?

[Question] Do you think it is time for another summit meeting?

[Answer] I wouldn't like to express any opinion about a summit meeting, because it depends on President Carter and President as-Sadat. I cannot speak on their behalf. This idea was not brought up before me today and therefore it is premature to express any opinion on it.

[Question] Are you in favor of....

[Answer--interrupting] Gentlemen, it is sabbath eve. I have to go home; my wife is waiting for me.

[Question] One more question, Mr Begin: Are you in favor of an American initiative now to try and get the talks back on track?

[Answer] It is not a matter of being in favor. The U.S. ambassador told me that the United States already undertook an initiative to bring about the renewal of the talks, but I only said: this is very good and we approve of it, but if a new date should be fixed, it can be done only through prior consultation with Israel. No unilateral decisions can be taken about this issue.

[Essing] U.S. Ambassador Lewis brought a message from President Carter and Ambassador Lewis also seems to be in the dark as to what will happen now. He said the United States will do all it can to renew the negotiations. In the meantime, Washington would seek clarifications from Cairo. Ambassador Lewis also discounted the idea of a new Begin-As-Sadat-Carter summit at this time. This is David Essing at the prime minister's office. [end recording]

Begin: Cabinet Should Remain 'Cool'

TA161959 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 16 May 80

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Begin said the United States will probably take a new initiative that will lead to the resumption of the autonomy talks. Yesterday Egypt surprisingly suspended the talks. In the Cabinet meeting the day after tomorrow, Mr Begin will propose that the Cabinet treat the Egyptian announcement on the suspension of the talks coolly and not give up on issues concerning the essence of the autonomy and Jerusalem's status.

AS-SADAT SENDS MESSAGE TO BEGIN ON TALKS

TA181124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] About half an hour ago the meeting between newly-appointed Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, and Israeli Ambassador Dr Eliyahu ben-Elisar ended at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. Our correspondent Ehud Ya'ari has just telephoned us from Cairo:

[Begin recording] A few minutes ago the meeting between Ambassador Ben-Elisar and Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali ended here, at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. It lasted 45 minutes. The ambassador was given a message for Prime Minister Begin.

President as-Sadat had reported his intention to present it on Friday, but the process of drafting it and presenting it took longer than expected. On emerging, Ben-Elisar refused to give any details on the contents of the letter or the conversation with the two Egyptian politicians. He merely stated that he informed 'Ali of Foreign Minister Shamir's congratulations on his new appointment. The Egyptians, on their part, have said that they may issue a statement on this meeting in 1 or 2 hours. In any event, the contents of the letter are not known, but we do know that the Egyptian press--primarily AL-AHRAM--have reported that the letter includes specific proposals, clearly-defined Egyptian proposals for steps to improve the atmosphere so that it will be possible to resume the autonomy talks around 26 May or immediately thereafter.

Anis Mansur, the correspondent closest to As-Sadat, wrote yesterday in his weekly, OCTOBER, that there is no alternative but to renew the talks. AL-AHRAM publishes an article by its diplomatic correspondent Hamdi Fu'ad that Egypt has indirectly received Israeli clarifications that the fact that the new bill on Jerusalem has been transferred to the Knesset committee was actually intended to put that bill to sleep, or to kill it, rather than to advance it. This is how he wants to explain to the Egyptian readership why Egypt will be prepared to resume the talks.

However, regarding the main thing: As to the contents of the letter, we still have no details. So much from the Egyptian Foreign Ministry in Cairo. [end recording]

CAIRO SOURCES COMMENT ON AS-SADAT'S MESSAGE TO CARTER, BEGIN

TA180936 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 May 80 p 1

[By Ron ben-Yishay, Yehoshu'a Halamish and Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] In his messages to President Carter and Prime Minister Begin, As-Sadat expressed his readiness to renew the autonomy talks "without preconditions." At the same time, he states they cannot be resumed without a change in the atmosphere that was muddled by Israel, in As-Sadat's opinion.

The Egyptian president asks in his letters that those elements "who create the distrust" be properly handled by Israel, thus hinting that Israel should stop settlement in the territories and should not proceed any further with the legislation on the Jerusalem issue.

The message to Begin will be handed to Israeli ambassador in Cairo, Eliyahu ben-Elisar, this morning and will be transferred to Jerusalem. As-Sadat emphasizes in his message that "creating faits accomplis"--the establishment of settlements in the occupied territories, arbitrary legislation on the Jerusalem issue and adoption of tough measures toward the Palestinians in the territories--all this has motivated Egypt to back out from continued negotiations on autonomy.

According to Cairo sources, As-Sadat states in his message that "without mutual trust it will be impossible to renew the talks. If the talks are still renewed under such conditions they are, of necessity, doomed to failure."

Senior-level consultations about the autonomy negotiations were held in Cairo at the end of the week.

RADIO REPORTS EXCHANGE OF ARTILLERY FIRE IN LEBANON

TA170517 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] In south Lebanon there was a fierce artillery battle last night between PLO gunners and the Lebanese militia. The PLO opened fire on the Christian villages of Marj 'Uyun and Al-Qulay'ah and the militiamen shot back. Israeli artillery also fired on PLO positions.

Beirut radio reports that an Israeli armored battalion moved into the south Lebanese enclave last night and terrorist sources told news agencies that Israeli gunbotas used rockets against their positions at Ad-Damur, which is 12 miles from Beirut. The gunboats also reportedly shelled the Sidon area.

The Lebanese state-owned news agency said that Israeli gunboats and helicopters were criss-corssing the Lebanese coast, exchanging machinegun and shell fire with terrorists at several points. The terrorists claim that they opened fire on Israeli boats off the Lebanese coast, forcing them to withdraw.

The Lebanese Government issued a warning to all travelers to avoid the coastal highway south of Beirut because of the clashes.

MILITARY SOURCES DENY IDF FORCE IN LEBANON

TA171619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 17 May 80

[Excerpt] A UPI correspondent in Beirut quotes Beirut Radio as saying that an IDF force seized defense positions in the Wadi as-Saluqi'i area in southern Lebanon under the cover of militia artillery. Israeli military sources totally deny this report. The report broadcast on Beirut Radio says that Israeli airplanes overflew Beirut and that the Israeli force numbers 500 soldiers.

FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

TA171308 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that the Israeli Government will be happy to host French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. In an interview with the LE FIGARO weekend supplement, Shamir said that Israel is interested in having a constant dialogue with France and, in his opinion, France can play a moderate role in the Middle East. He urged the French Government not to invite Yasir 'Arafat for an official visit.

ROMANIAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL DENIES CHANGE IN PLO STATUS

TA161736 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1450 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Tel Aviv, 16 May--A delegation from the Israel-Romania Friendship Association, including Yitzhaq Qoren (chairman), Yitzhaq Artzi, Tel Aviv Deputy Mayor Pesah (Gani), Eli'ezer (Lazarowicz) and Shalom Silberfarb, met with the charge d'affaires at the Romanian Embassy, Mr Gheorghe (Juganaru), today. The two consuls, Mihai (Frazila) and Stefan (Stuika), were also present.

The delegation expressed its surprise with the presentation of credentials by the PLO representative accredited to the Romanian institutions. The ceremony held on that occasion created an impression than Romania's stand regarding the Palestinian problem and the status of the Bucharest PLO representative was changing.

Mr (Juganaru) explained that nothing has changed in Romania's position on the Middle East problem, the Palestinian problem or the status of the PLO. Answering questions and reacting to comments, Mr (Juganaru) said that the accreditation of the PLO representative was done in front of the Romanian Communist Party secretary general, not the president of the state. He also emphasized that the status of the PLO representative in Bucharest has not changed either.

Mr (Juganaru) pointed out the Romanian desire and interest in maintaining and developing warm relations with Israel, with all the Israeli circles and with all the Romanian immigrants in this country on the basis of the principles of Romanian foreign policy.

Mr (Juganaru) and his colleagues attributed great significance to the positive contribution of the Israel-Romanian Friendship Association toward developing friendly relations between the two nations and the two peoples. He expressed his hope that these positive relations will continue to develop.

SITUATION ALONG NORTHERN BORDER REPORTED CALM

TA180611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] This morning quiet prevails in the northen settlements and in the southern Lebanon enclaves following yesterday's heavy exchanges of fire between the terrorists and the Christian militia in the eastern enclave.

Our correspondent in the north Yehezqel Hame'iri reports that Lebanese villagers have been reporting that the terrorists and villagers are fleeing the villages shelled by the militia. Last night, the terrorists claimed that Israeli gunboats shelled the coastal strip between Sidon and As-Sarafand in southern Lebanon. Israeli military sources reported that this was without foundation.

GOVERNMENT LEGAL ADVISER SUBMITS RESERVATIONS ON SINAI SUPERVISION

TA180609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The government legal adviser has reservations about the proposed Sinai supervision agreement which was worked out during the Washington talks. His reservations center primarily on the fact that the agreement does not make it clear what will happen if, toward the conclusion of the IDF withdrawal from the Sinai, no multinational force is established to supervise the agreement. Professor Zamir brought his comments to the prime minister.

The Defense Ministry claims that the government's legal adviser is delaying the signing of the agreement, whereas according to Professor Zamir, the prime minister has accepted his reservations and that is why the signing has been put off.

Further Details on Sinai Report

TA180910 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 May 80 p 2

[Text] The signing of the Sinai supervision agreement is delayed, not due to disagreement between the Foreign Ministry and the Defense Ministry (that fully agree on this matter), but due to the government legal adviser's objection to one of the clauses in the agreement.

This clause concerns the question of what will happen at the end of the 3-year period if a UN force is not established to separate Israel and Egypt and to take position in Sharm ash-Shaykh and the Rafah approaches after Israel returns to the international border in May 1982.

Senior security elements reported yesterday that even though a signed written agreement has not been achieved, all other articles of the supervision are implemented and mutually agreed upon by Israel and Egypt. Regarding the establishment of a UN force or a multinational force as set down in the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, a year is still left to establish it. These elements added that, in any case, Israel reserves the option not to complete the Sinai evacuation up to a return to the international border if a multinational force or a UN observation force is not set up.

Concerning the criticism that the security system ceded, as it were, the right to receive aerial photographs from the U.S. Sinai patrols, senior security elements stated this is without foundation. The defense system and the defense minister did not make any concessions on this issue. The peace treaty tiself stipulates that Israel will receive the results of the aerial photographs taken by the Americans and Israel indeed receives these photographs. On the question of continued U.S. aerial patrols after Israel's withdrawal to the international border, it was Israel that gave this up, since security elements concluded they will not need it.

According to the agreements the aerial patrols concern photographs on a mutual basis. In other words, if Israel receives aerial shots on activity in the Sinai it will have to make possible [U.S.] aerial photographs in the Negev and the transfer of these photographs to the Egyptians. It has therefore been decided to give up the U.S. aerial patrols and photographs that the Americans will make for both parties after the withdrawal to the international line.

On the criticism leveled at the defense system for withdrawing to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line without having UN supervision, senior security elements say that the U.S. field mission is carrying out the supervision task in the best possible manner. This supervision force has proven to be accurate and objective too. Regarding the claim that the Egyptians violate the peace treaty, the security elements said that there are low-level violations by both sides.

All violations either of the parties complained about were handled and solved on a low level. To date, there has been no violation resulting from a high-level instruction that might be regarded as senior elements' initiating a political contradiction. The joint Israeli-Egyptian Military Committee handles complaints about violations and settles disagreements on the basis of complete understanding.

WEIZMAN NOTES 'RELAXATION' IN WEST BANK SITUATION

TA190929 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 May 80 p 3

[By Yehuda Litani]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman reported yesterday at the Cabinet session that there is marked relaxation in the situation in Judaea and Samaria and the military government is in control. He also said that the West Bank mayors had not resigned to date and this proves that the mayors are to a certain extent independent of the PLO. It has been reported that the defense minister's tone on this issue was "calming." Weizman added that the "iron hand" policy in the West Bank will continue.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT BANS REFUGEE MOVEMENTS FROM JERICHO

TA181940 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reported that today the military government banned the families from Bayt Sahur and Balatah, who have been transferred to a refugee camp in Jericho, from leaving Jericho. They were ordered to register their permanent address in Jericho. These two families are continuing their hunger strike to demand that an investigating committee be established. Today they served as a focus for a pilgrimage by clubs and organizations from Judaea and Samaria.

Security personnel explained to our correspondent that it had been decided to take this step to contain the plague of stone-throwing in Judaea and Samaria. The security elements fear that if this plague is not contained now, a situation will be created in which Israelis will not be able to move through Judaea and Samaria. The security personnel suspect that the stone-throwing has been initiated by the PLO office in Amman and some of the funds the Baghdad conference at one time allocated were intended to foster civil rebellion.

ACTING HEBRON MAYOR SUMMONED BY MILITARY GOVERNMENT

TA182048 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 May 80

[Excerpt] Today acting Hebron Mayor an-Natshah was summoned to the military government, where it was explained to him, as it had been explained to his predecessors, that he must only deal with municipal affairs and not with politics.

ETHIOPIA

SURRENDER OF MORE 'ANTIREVOLUTIONARIES' REPORTED

LD170126 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 17 May 80 EA

[Text] Fifteen members of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP) who had been involved in antirevolutionary operations in Gondar Region under the banner of their antipeople party gave themselves up to the government at the administrative office of Wollo region during the week. They admitted their party's political bankruptcy and their crimes against the revolution of the Ethiopian masses, and appealed to the Ethiopian masses for clemency.

All admitted that since 1976 they had been involved in antirevolutionary activities in several parts of Ethiopia, including the Belesa and Tselemt areas of Gondar Region. They went on to expose the antirevolutionary and anti-Ethiopia stand of EPRP, revealing that the party had direct links with the monarchist group of the Ethiopian Democratic Union, and the Eritrean secessionist bandits.

Hailing the government's commitment to the eradication of illiteracy in Ethiopia, they commended the government for its resolute role in the revolution of the Ethiopian masses. They also disclosed that they had been helped to recognize the genuinely progressive tenets of the Ethiopian revolution after the formation of COPWE [Commission for Organizing the Party of Workers of Ethiopia].

In a brief speech to those who had surrendered, Comrade Mulatu Gessese, deputy regional administrator of Wollo Region, said the revolutionary government was always ready to grant clemency to those who regretted the crimes they had perpetrated against the Ethiopian masses and revolution. We warned all antirevolutionaries, secessionists and infiltrators to recognize that the mighty arm of the Ethiopian masses and revolution was almighty and would crush anything or anyone.

SOMALIA

PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY ESCAPES EARLIER ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

JN190742 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 19 May 80

[Text] Kuwait, 19 May--Press reports here today say that Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre escaped an assassination attempt on his life at the end of April during an official ceremony in Mogadishu. Reporting this today, Kuwait AL-WATAN says that Barre's aide de camp was killed during the attempt. The paper, however, failed to give further information on the perpetrator's fate or the reasons for carrying out the attempt. It is to be recalled that the perpetrator is a Somali citizen.

UGANDA

MILITARY COMMISSION MOVES TO STABILIZE, CONSOLIDATE

Arms Turn-in Ordered

LD151918 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1814 GMT 15 May 80 EA

[Text] Good evening listeners. Before we bring the address made by the chairman and Mr Yoweri Museveni [words indistinct] to the permanent secretaries of various ministries in Uganda, we bring you the statement by the Military Commission, and it reads:

The Military Commission once again deeply thanks the people of Uganda for the great sense of duty, maturity and responsibility they have demonstrated during the last few days. The commission is still mindful of the unspeakable and (?lasting) suffering the people of this nation have endured since 1971. It is, in the view of the commission, imperative that peace and tranquility must reign in this land in order to create a suitable atmosphere for the implementation of programs for economic and social progress for all.

To this effect, the commission earnestly appeals to all people who may be keeping arms of any kind in their possession to surrender them within 14 days from today to the nearest police station or army station. The commission further requests any person who may have knowledge of any person in possession of any illegal firearm to surrender it immediately or to report him to the nearest army or police station.

The commission intends to give an appropriate reward to every person who will make a genuine report to this effect.

New Cabinet Named

LD172033 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1937 GMT 17 May 80 EA

[Text] This is Kampala calling, and here is a special announcement:

The military commission has made the following ministerial appointments:

Cabinet ministers:

Minister of Public Service and Cabinet Affairs	The Honorable Wilson Okwanje
Minister of Agriculture	The Honorable M.M. Ngobi
Minister of Animal Industry and and Fisheries	The Honorable (Ezra R. Nkwasibwe)
Minister of Commerce	The Honorable Tim Katageya
Minister of Cooperatives and Marketing	The Honorable Obua Otuwa
Minister of Culture and Community Development	The Honorable A. Tiberondwa
Minister of Education	The Honorable Mrs (Joan Namiremebe Bitamazere)
Minister of Finance	The Honorable L. Sebalu
Minister of Foreign Affairs	The Honorable Otema Olimadi
Minister of Health	The Honorable M. Ntege Lubwama
Minister of Industry	The Honorable Dr B.A. Obonyo
Minister of Information and Broadcasting	The Honorable David Anyoti
Minister of Internal Affiars	The Honorable Sam Tewungwa
Minister of Justice	The Honorable Stephen Ariko
Minister of Labor	The Honorable Luwizira Kirunda
Minister of Land and Natural Resources	The Honorable Prof T.B. Kabwegyere
Minister of Local Administration	The Honorable Bidandi Ssali
Minister of Planning and Economic Development	The Honorable Anthony Ocaya
Minister of Power, Post and Telecommunications	The Honorable Akena Pojok
Minister of Regional Cooperation	The Honorable Dr Albert Picho
Minister of Transport	The Honorable Kinto Musoke
Minister of Tourism and Wildlife	The Honorable E. Kamuntu
Minister of Works and Housing	The Honorable Abraham C.N. Waligo
Minister of Rehabilitation	The Honorable Kasete Kunia

The chairman of the Military Commission, Hon Paulo Muwanga, and the vice chairman, Hon Yoweri Museveni, will concentrate on the matters of the Military Commission and the cabinet, while as members of the Military Commission they will also, apart from whatever appointments they may be holding, be full cabinet ministers without portfolio.

The other members are Colonel Omaria, Maj Gen Tito Okello, Brig Ojok Oyite, and Colonel Maluru.

That is the end of the announcement.

Clampdown on Army Lawlessness

LD171136 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1055 GMT 17 May 80 EA

[Text] Here now is the special announcement read by (Awori Ogade):

The Military Commission wishes to inform the general public that no act of lawlessness on the part of the army personnel will be tolerated and takes this opportunity to reiterate its determination to stamp out all sorts of lawlessness and appeals to the public at large to report so that appropriate action shall be taken against the perpetrators of such activities.

Signed by Paulo Muwanga, chairman of the Military Commission.

The station repeats the announcement and adds: "The same announcement will be coming on in just 30 minutes"]

Commission Lists Its Powers

LD181300 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1132 GMT 18 May 80 EA

[Text] The Uganda National Liberation Front [UNLF] Military Commission has put out a declaration stating its powers and stressed that its (?assumption) to powers shall not be questioned in any court of law. The following is the full text of the declaration:

Whereas on the 12th day of May 1980 we, the members of the UNLF Military Commission [words indistinct] given in our statement to the nation on the 13th day of May 1980, assumed the powers of the Government of Uganda in our pursuance of such powers do hereby proclaim as follows:

1. There shall be a presidential commission of three persons appointed by the Military Commission;
2. Subject to paragraph three hereof, all powers, privileges, sanctions and [word indistinct] formerly enjoyed or exercised by the president of Uganda under the constitution or any other written law are hereby vested in the presidential commission;
3. The presidential commission shall exercise executive powers of the Government of the Republic of Uganda through a cabinet of ministers to be chaired by the chairman of the Military Commission;
4. The cabinet ministers and deputy ministers shall be appointed by the presidential commission acting in accordance with the advice of the Military Commission;
5. Any person who held a political office during the period 25th January 1971 to 3rd June 1979 shall not be eligible to hold any political post or position, elective or otherwise, in the organs of or the interim government of the UNLF without prior clearance by and/or the approval of the Military Commission, save that this paragraph shall not apply to the members of the Military Commission;
6. The members of the Military Commission shall have full rights to participate in the deliberations of the cabinet;
7. The Military Commission shall direct the cabinet of the ministers on all matters of policy;
8. Subject to the provisions of this proclamation, the National Consultative Council shall have the powers to make laws for the peace, order and good government of Uganda with respect to any matter;

9. All bills passed by the National Consultative Council shall be assented to by the presidential commission, provided that should the presidential commission fail to agree on the question of giving such assent to any bill, or withhold the case or fail to take any action, and such a bill or action is in the opinion of the Military Commission, in the public interest, the chairman of the Military Commission may get assent to take action;
10. No action or other legal proceedings whatsoever, whether civil or criminal, shall be instituted in any court for or on account of, or in respect of any acts, matter or (?sealed bond) during the continuation of operations consequent upon or incidental to the assumption of the powers of the government by the Military Commission if done in good faith or done, or purported to be done, in the execution of duties or for the defense of the UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army]. The Uganda police or the military or police personnel of the United Republic of Tanzania, and assumption of powers by the Military Commission shall not be questioned in any court of law;
11. Article 15 of the constituion shall not apply to Idi Amin and his collaborators in criminal activity against the people and violations of human rights during the period 25th January 1971 to 3rd June 1979;
12. Decree Number 14 of 1971 with all amendments thereto is hereby revoked;
13. Before assuming office, a member of the presidential commission shall take and subscribe to the oath stipulated in Schedule A, hereto and the chairman of cabinet, cabinet ministers and deputy ministers shall take and subscribe to the oath stipulated in Schedule B, hereto;
14. Where any conflict arises between the provisions of this proclamation and the provisions of the republican constitution of 1967 the constitution of the UNLF or any other written law, the provisions of this proclamation shall prevail;

[Signed] Paulo Muwanga, chairman of the Military Commission.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO MEET 20 MAY

LD161826 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 May 80 EA

[Text] The secretary general of the Democratic Party, DP, Mr (Wazarahe Bunji), has announced that an urgent meeting of the Exeuctive Committee of the party will be held on Tuesday, 20 May 1980 at the Democratic Party headquarters in Kampala.

No reason was given, but Mr (Wazarahe Bunji) urged all members, especially Messrs (Boniface Byanema), (Cyprian Msiko) and Paul Kavuma, to attend without fail.

BRIEFS

CHOLERA IN UGANDA--The medical authorities in Kapchorwa District have urged the people in the district to follow the public health regulations following an outbreak of cholera in the area which according to the reports has so far claimed 12 lives. [Excerpt] [Kampala Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 16 May 80 EA]

CAMEROON

INFORMATION MINISTER CRITICIZES RADIO NEWS, PRESS

AB162007 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] The minister of information and culture, Mr Guillaume Bwelle, has told the national press to be self-critical, exploratory and educative. Speaking at the first coordinating meeting with journalists of the national press, Mr Guillaume Bwelle discouraged Radio Cameroon journalists and announcers from the speedy delivery of radio scripts, absence of rigorous editing of news, lack of similarity between French and English news bulletins and excess music instead of educative programs.

Admitting that Radio Cameroon still lacks a lot of material and modern equipment, Mr Bwelle called for a little more effort in the carrying out of duties.

Speaking about the written press, the minister of information and culture criticized the lack of pungent headlines and the use of photographs which really have little to tell. He called for more editorials, commentaries and investigative articles in the local papers.

The minister pointed out that this was just the first in a series of such self-criticism meetings. He praised the spirit of enthusiasm, hard work and availability exhibited at the Bafoussam congress on the presidential election by the national press.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

FRENCH AID MINISTER GALLEY ARRIVES FOR TALKS

AB161550 Paris AFP in English 1208 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Bangui, May 16 (AFP)--French Minister for Foreign Development Robert Galley arrived here today on a five-day visit for top-level talks. Mr. Galley was to meet Central African Vice Premier Alphonse Koyamba, in charge of financial affairs, Vice President Henri Maidou and Premier Bernard Christian Ayando today. He was to meet later today with Central African President David Dacko. Mr. Galley's visit comes one month before a meeting of providers of finances for Central Africa to be held here from June 23 to 28.

CHAD

EXILES CALL FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE

LD151541 Paris LE MONDE in French 15 May 80 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Chad"]

[Text] A plan to find "solutions likely to restore peace in Chad" has been drawn up by Chadian officials who have taken refuge in Koussei--a small city in north Cameroon opposite Ndjamena. This plan, published on Monday 12 May, is the first of its type drawn up to try to end the civil war which has been raging for almost 2 months and has been sent to all the leaders of the different factions. The initiators of this plan, led by former Economy Minister Abdoulaye Lamana, suggest "urgently convening in Ndjamena" a "national reconciliation conference" under OAU auspices.

CONGO

JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH MALI ON BEYE VISIT ISSUED

AB162030 Paris AFP in French 1557 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Brazzaville, 16 May (AFP)--The Congo and Mali have just reaffirmed that implementation of the Lagos accords by the various factions in the conflict remains the only valid legal instrument for a peaceful solution to the Chad crisis. This was contained in a joint communique published on Thursday after a Malian delegation's visit to the Congo.

The two countries also expressed their anxiety over the increase in areas of tension in Africa and the world and their concern over the present international situation and the dangers threatening peace in Africa and the rest of the world.

The two parties, the communique added, examined the position of their bilateral relations and the cooperation between Congo and Mali and expressed their wish to promote such cooperation in the interest of their two peoples.

Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, leader of the Malian delegation, was received on Thursday by the Congolese head of state, Col Denis Sassou Nguesso.

BRIEFS

USSR-CONGO HOSPITAL PROJECTS--This morning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the Congo and the USSR signed two agreements on the extension of (Blanche Koreze) maternity and the construction of a 200-bed capacity hospital in Lobomo. The ambassador of the Soviet Union, who signed for his country, has described these projects as a proof of the strong relations between the two countries. [Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 16 May 80 AB]

GHANA

PRESIDENT LIMANN ARRIVES IN COTONOU

AB161832 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] The president, Dr Limann, arrived in Cotonou today for a brief visit to Benin. He was greeted at the airport by President Kerekou and a number of his ministers. According to our correspondent on the visit, a young girl presented a bowl of gari and beans to President Limann, signifying the traditional way of warm welcome. After inspecting a guard of honor, the two presidents retired to the airport lounge, where Dr Limann addressed a news conference.

Speaking in French, Dr Limann recalled the strong bonds of friendship between Ghana and Benin over the years, and he said it is the determination of his government that this level of friendship will be further strengthened.

From the airport President Limann and his host drove in an open car to the residency, where they immediately settled down for talks. President Kerekou is giving a state banquet in honor of President Limann tonight. Our correspondent says a large number of Ghanaians were at the airport to welcome President Limann. The head of the Ghanaian community, Nana Osei Yaw, poured libation at the gangway of the air force plan to welcome the president.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ANNOUNCES CROP, LIVESTOCK TARGETS

AB161532 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 16 May 80

[Excerpts] The government has again warned that it will deal drastically with any agency or individual who fails to perform his duty in the implementation of its program to grow more food for the people. Giving details of the program in a radio and television broadcast, the minister of agriculture, Dr Andah, said the government will not stand idly by and compromise its well-laid plan because of the improprieties of a few individuals. He said accountability will be vigorously demanded from the various monitoring and feed-back agencies envisaged under the program, which will be fully kept on their toes throughout the period. In order to accomplish the government's objectives within the shortest possible time, a number of target crops and livestock projects have been selected for intensive development, and priority is being given to maize, rice, millet, sorghum, plantain, yam, cassava, poultry and piggery. The production targets set are: 464,000 tons of cassava; 2 million tons of plantain; 20 million broilers; 10 million layers and 200,000 porkers.

ECHO SUPPORTS GOVERNMENT AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

AB181227 Accra Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 18 May 80

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The government's 2-year agricultural program continues to attract editorial comment. The ECHO describes it as bold, ambitious and prodigious in its expectations, but it expresses the fear that Ghanaians might be skeptical about it because they have seen many such plans remain mere paper work. Officials charged with the responsibility of administering such programs have sabotaged them because they disagreed with the programs or they were left out of the decision making but were nonetheless required to administer them.

The ECHO says the 2-year agricultural program is a monumental challenge to all Ghanaians, and dynamic leadership is expected of the minister of agriculture to ensure its success. The government must ensure that its officials discharge their duties diligently and must not spare the rod on incompetent and obstructionist officials. The paper hopes the program, if successful, could dramatically change the fortunes of the country. And it calls on all Ghanaians, no matter their situation in life or political belief, to make it succeed. It is just that youth settlement farms should be established and properly financed so that all the unemployed people hanging around the streets could be mobilized and gainfully employed on the farms.

GUINEA

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, IRAN, AFGHANISTAN

AB171025 Paris AFP in French 0621 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Dakar, 17 May (AFP)--In a speech delivered on Friday which was broadcast on Radio Conakry and monitored in Dakar, President Sekou Toure of Guinea said that he knew before hand that there was going to be an attempt on his life and that acts of sabotage were going to be committed.

The Guinean head of state, upon receiving wishes of goodwill from the diplomatic corps, stated that when he returned from his trips to China, Yugoslavia and Romania he had warned against events likely to take place on 14 May during the 33rd anniversary celebrations of the Guinean Democratic Party which would threaten security in Conakry.

When referring to the assassination attempt, Mr Sekou Toure did not add any new information. He simply recalled that a grenade exploded and that a second more powerful one did not explode.

In addition, the Guinean president, though he approves of the Iranian Revolution, condemned kidnapping of hostages in Iran. No true and honest revolution has the right to proceed in this manner by arresting innocent people; we call that a crime, he said in particular.

Mr Sekou Toure also condemned the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan because, he underlined, one cannot do injustice in the name of revolution, in the name of socialism. The gratitude which Guinea owes the (?USSR), he added, must not prevent her from speaking the truth and this truth is that Afghanistan deserves to be respected.

RADIO URGES EXPOSURE OF THOSE BEHIND 14 MAY INCIDENT

AB161330 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Comrades and militants of the party state and revolutionary local authorities who are listening to us attentively: We would like to reiterate the (decisions) taken by the party state and by the revolutionary local authorities of the three Conakry federations during their extraordinary meetings. The popular masses must be vigilant in order to seek out and punish the enemies of 14 May who are hidden among our ranks. The sole and common aim of everyone of us should be our determination to report these cowards so that they will face the examplary punishment for their deeds.

IVORY COAST

EEC'S CHEYSSON ARRIVES IN ABIDJAN ON 1-DAY VISIT

AB171430 Paris AFP in French 1030 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Abidjan, 17 May (AFP)--Mr Claude Cheysson, the European commissioner in charge of development arrived in Abidjan on Saturday for a 24-hour visit to the Ivorian capital during which he will meet President Houphouet-Boigny.

It is learned from official sources that Mr Cheysson and the Ivorian authorities will discuss the problem of European sugarcane quotas for the Ivory Coast. Mr Cheysson's last visit to the Ivory Coast was in February 1979.

LIBERIA

FOREIGN MINISTER LEADS DELEGATION TO NIGERIA

AB181232 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Foreign Minister G. Baccus Matthews left Liberia yesterday at the head of a top-level Liberian delegation to Lagos, Nigeria. The Liberian delegation's visit to Nigeria is in keeping with an invitation from Nigerian President Lahaji Shehu Shagari. In Nigeria, it is expected that the foreign minister and his delegation will hold bilateral talks with the Nigerian Government. Following the visit to Nigeria, Foreign Minister Matthews will travel to Ethiopia in response to another invitation from the Ethiopian Government to hold bilateral talks. Mr Matthews will be away from Monrovia for about a week and during his absence from the capital acting chief of protocol (Sebastian Jerrack) will serve as minister of foreign affairs.

IMF, WORLD BANK TEAMS IN MONROVIA FOR CONSULTATIONS

AB181305 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] According to news reports released in Monrovia yesterday, a six-man team from the International Monetary Fund based in Washington, D.C. has arrived in Monrovia, at the invitation of the Liberian Government, for consultations. The IMF team is expected to be in Monrovia for more than a week. It is headed by Mr (Kwame Quincy), who is a senior adviser in the African Department of the International Monetary Fund. During their stay here, the team will hold discussions with government officials, including the ministers of finance and planning and economic affairs, to assess the current economic situation in Liberia. Reports say the team will also help formulate programs that could qualify for possible IMF assistance to Liberia.

Also visiting Liberia currently is a two-man delegation from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, commonly known as the World Bank.

MORE INFORMATION ON ABORTIVE COUP REVEALED

Armed Forces Commander's Statement

AB161842 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] The commanding general of the armed forces of Liberia, Brig Gen Thomas Quiwonkpa, has warned that any soldier or law enforcement officer who engages in any act to tarnish the good image of the revolution will face the full force of military disciplinary measures. Addressing local and foreign newsmen today at the Barclay Training Center in Monrovia, General Quiwonkpa declared that the April 12, 1980 revolution made by Master Sergeant Samuel Kanyon Doe was done under the suffering of the masses of the Liberian people for about 133 years. [as heard] He added: For the past years, our people were only spectators. They never actively participated in activities and events of significance. But today, he went on, they have become the makers of history because it was through their struggle that the revolution was born.

General Quiwonkpa, who was speaking on news reports of an abortive counter coup attempt against the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government, sounded a note of warning and appealed to members of the armed forces not to engage themselves in any activities that could spoil the good image of the revolution.

Anyone guilty of this, he warned, will face the full force of military disciplinary measures. General Quiwonkpa disclosed that despite the massive support from all walks of life for the PRC government, some military personnel with different motives had engaged themselves in subversive activities to overthrow the PRC government.

These soldiers, he added, included some officers recently promoted by the PRC government. He said they had tried to influence a few soldiers and some civilians to carry out their plot against the PRC government, which, he noted, for the past one month has identified with the people of Liberia in seeking solutions to their problems. But this act of openness on the part of the PRC government, General Quiwonkpa further noted, is seen by enemies of the revolution as a bad start. He declared: These enemies in our midst will not stop us from loving our people. The commanding general then revealed that all ring leaders of the unsuccessful coup attempt have already been arrested, while the search continues for the collaborators.

The alleged ring leaders now in detention include Maj James Horrace, Col Arthur B. Benson, Maj Robert Lape, the former army aviation commander, Col Arthur Bedel, and Gen Rudolph F. Kolako, who was recently promoted to the rank of one star general following the April 12 revolution. General Quiwonkpa said the PRC government will keep on the lookout for other collaborators until those behind them come to light.

Radio Says Seven Arrested

AB161938 [Editorial Report] Monrovia Domestic Service in English at 1900 GMT on 16 May carries a report similar to that above on Liberian Armed Forces Commander Quiwonkpa's press conference. However, in the domestic service version, seven senior officers are reported to have been arrested. The report says:

"Seven senior officers of the armed forces of Liberia have been arrested and detained at the Barclay Training Center in connection with an alleged coup attempt on Tuesday. Those arrested include the former aviation commander, Col Arthur Bedel, Gen Rudolph Kilako, James Horrace and Col Arthur Benson. Others are Maj Robert Lape, Col Joseph Solo and William Passewe." According to the report, Brig Gen Thomas Quiwonkpa revealed that these soldiers had tried to influence two other soldiers and some civilians to overthrow the government.

Doe Warns Against Subversion

AB171330 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Head of state Master Sergeant Samuel K. Doe has warned that any official or army personnel who attempt any subversive activity will be dealt with accordingly. He said the very gun he used to liberate his people on April 12 is still in his possession and called on every Liberian to be vigilant by reporting subversive activities to the proper authority. The head of state was speaking at the executive mansion to students from Grand Bassa County including (?Willenburg) training center, the [words indistinct] when they presented him statements of congratulation, support and solidarity. Mr Doe informed the students that nine [as heard] top-ranking officers of the armed forces of Liberia had attempted to overthrow the government. The nine are Aviation Commander Col Arthur Bedel, Colonel Kolako, Col Joseph Solo, adviser to the head of state on military affairs, Major James Horrace, Col Arthur B. Benson, and Major Robert Lape. The students commended the head of state for what they described as a remarkable achievement and the release from prison of brilliant and tactful intellectuals who had been thinking like him to succeed in the struggle for our people's emancipation. The students recommended that all vocational graduates with high school education be employed as junior staff with concessions as has been practiced at the Bong mines.

NEW AIR FORCE COMMANDER REPLACES ARRESTED COLONEL

AB161526 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1500 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Capt (Augustus Jaba) has been appointed the new commander of the Army Aviation Unit in Liberia. Captain (Jaba) replaces Col Arthur Bedel, who was arrested and detained for his alleged involvement in a counter coup attempt uncovered earlier this week. The arrest of Colonel Bedel was disclosed by the cochairman of the People's Redemption Council, Maj Gen Thomas Weh Syen, when he visited members of the Army Aviation Unit at the James (Pushpain) airfield. Major General Weh Syen called on the unit to support the revolution, which, he said, was successfully carried out by the PRC [People's Redemption Council] to put an end to the sufferings of the Liberian people. The members of the aviation unit stressed the need for improved facilities and other logistics for their job.

MILITARY TRIBUNAL ADJOURNS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

AB162003 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] The special military tribunal trying officials of the ousted Tolbert government has taken a weekend break to do some administrative work. According to its chairman, Colonel Senkpeni, the tribunal will resume next Monday. He said the tribunal tried (?60) people [words indistinct].

AFP NOTES ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES FACING NEW GOVERNMENT

AB171325 Paris AFP in English 1147 GMT 17 May 80

[By Jean-Paul Dufour]

[Text] Monrovia, 17 May (AFP)--One month after the military coup here, Liberia faces serious economic problems in a difficult time of political ferment and rising expectations.

The country is broke, said Togba Nah Tipoteh, the minister of planning and economic affairs, after soldiers led by Master Sergeant Samuel Doe overthrew and killed President William Tolbert in the first coup in Liberia's 133-year national history. Yet the People's Redemption Council formed by the new military rulers has announced that the minimum wage of 100 dollars a month will rise to 250 in the army and 200 in the civil service.

Diplomatic sources fear it would cost an additional 34 million dollars a year to fulfill that pledge. Mr Tipoteh says that the money can be raised by cutting unnecessary expenses budgeted by the Tolbert government. Observers expect workers will be upset if they fail to get similar wage hikes, especially rubber plantation workers and iron miners. Mr Tipoteh said that just before the takeover on April 12, the Tolbert government had only 5 million dollars in reserves, there was a 25 million dollar overdraft at the central bank and the country's foreign debt stood at 700 million dollars. We must no expect too much, too soon, the minister told Liberians.

Since then, the money picture has gotten a little brighter, said the finance minister, Major Perry Zulu. Tax revenues are coming in, partly because of government appeals and partly because the big shots--the wealthy descendants of American slaves alleged to be traditional tax evaders under the old regime--fear the new rulers, who had 13 Tolbert officials executed.

Aid from the International Monetary Fund has reduced the central bank deficit to 12 million dollars.

Officials have repeatedly urged mine and plantation workers to be patient. At the same time, civilians have called for change in Liberia's labor legislation and for reform of the trade unions, which used to be headed by Tolbert's son. The unions are a force the new government will soon have to contend with, observers noted.

After Sgt Doe's announcement that there would be no more executions, some western countries have begun once again to support Liberia, whose economy is based on an open-door policy to investors and which cannot live without the confidence of foreign corporations. But despite government assurances that Liberia's joint enterprises in which the government owns a share will remain unchanged, businessmen are in a position of wait-and-see.

For the moment, imports are nearly nil. A spokesman for a shipping line said that his company brought in about 40 cargo containers twice a month from Rotterdam alone before the coup, but the last ship to come to Liberia carried just one container.

At the Ducor International Hotel, whose clientele is almost exclusively businessmen, 25 percent of the rooms are occupied, as against 80 percent before the coup. The American school has closed one month earlier than usual, and most of the expatriate families have left Liberia.

Banking restrictions have been lifted, but currency exchanges are still restricted. This could severely harm the economy, because the combination of the dollar as currency and the absence of controls on fund transfers has been one of Liberia's main attractions for foreign investors.

Daily life has returned more or less to normal in Monrovia, but the military rulers still seem a little nervous. Yesterday, armed forces Commanding General Thomas Quiwonkpa ann announced that seven senior officers had been arrested for attempting to overthrow the government. The curfew remains in force, and the general said recently that it was premature to talk about lifting it.

Meanwhile, the members of the military council are trying to polish their image through sport. Several of them, including Sgt Doe, are well-known soccer players in Liberia, and they have organized a big tournament, much of which will be broadcast on radio.

The minister of sport even proposed to the dean of the diplomatic corps that diplomats and members of the government play a match.

ZULU NOTES GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT BUSINESSMEN

AB171440 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] Finance Minister Perry Zulu has told businessmen that it is the responsibility of both government and the business community to restore the nation's economy to a full state of normalcy. He said government was fully committed to giving the business community full protection and insuring that a favorable and viable climate was created to ease the tension and uncertainty now existing among businessmen.

Minister Zulu spoke at the Ducor Hall yesterday during a panel discussion organized and sponsored by the chamber of commerce. Other participants on the panel were Dr Togba Nah Tipoteh, minister of planning and economic affairs; Mr Charles Green, governor of the National Bank; and Mr Sam Jackson, deputy minister of commerce, who deputized for the minister.

Discussing the topic: The shape of the economy in post-revolutionary Liberia, the panel noted that it was also the responsibility of banking institutions to cooperate with government by granting loans and other financial services to businessmen to insure the continued supply of food and other basic commodities into the country.

DOE TELLS PRESS NOT TO REFER TO ETHNIC ORIGINS

AB181244 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] Head of state, Master Sergeant Doe, says that the Liberian press should desist from using slogans and pronouncements which will tend to divide the Liberian nation. He said reference to ethnic origins and affiliations should be immediately discontinued. In a letter to Information Minister Gabriel Nimley, Master Sergeant Doe reemphasized that the purpose of the April 12 revolution was to insure the march for progress of a united Liberia, where all the citizens will enjoy equal social justice and opportunity. The letter told members of the news media that it is government's urgent endeavor to restore normalcy and to build confidence in both government and the people so that the task of nationbuilding should be undertaken with the participation and contribution of all Liberians.

NIGERIA

TOGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER BRIEFS SHAGARI

AB161710 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] President Shehu Shagari today in Lagos received the Togolese foreign minister, Mr Anani Akakpo-Ahianyo, at state house in Lagos. Mr Ahianyo briefed the president on the preparations being made by Togo to host the forthcoming summit of the Economic Communist of West African States, ECOWAS, taking place in Lome later this month, and on efforts being made to resolve the Chadian crisis. Togo and three other countries--Benin, Congo and Guinea--are members of the OAU committee on Chad. The foreign minister was accompanied to state house by Mr (Ajavon), the Togolese charge d'affaires in Nigeria.

CHADIAN REFUGEES IN BORNO STATE NUMBER 10,000

AB170720 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 May 80

[Excerpts] Land has been made available for the construction of the two thousand federal housing unit in Borno State. This was announced by the presidential liaison officer for the area, Alhaji (Batana Batun), to the FRCN [Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria] Lagos correspondent, Vincent Owo, in an interview.

On the Chadian refugees problem the liaison officer said that more than 10,000 Chadians were in the capital. He appealed to the federal government to give more aid for the resettlement of the refugees. Already the sum of 1 million naira has been approved for the welfare of the victims of the federal government.

KANO STATE BANS POLITICAL ACTIVITY FOLLOWING CLASHES

AB161755 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 May 80

[Text] Political activities have been banned in Kano State. A statement by the police command said permits for political rallies [few words indistinct]. It explained that the decision was taken at a meeting between the state commissioner of police and representatives of the five political parties.

This follows (?recent) clashes between the NPP [Nigerian People's Party] and the PRP [People's Redemption Party] in the state, and said the ban was necessary in the interest of peace. It appealed to individuals and politicians to desist from chanting political slogan in public transport and places as well as flying party flags.

PAPER SEES RECENT STRIKES AS 'POLITICALLY MOTIVATED'

AB171230 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 17 May 80

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The NEW NIGERIAN says that it is hard not to believe the minister for labor and productivity, Mr Adebisi Ogendengbe's assertions that the current wave of strikes is politically motivated. The paper recalls the Nigerian Labor Congress' attempt to blackmail the federal government to obtain some of its demands early this year. It points out that the current wave of strikes has made it clear that the NLC was not in charge of other affiliated unions.

The NEW NIGERIAN observes that strike (?actions) always exhaust all available avenues for amicable solutions to the problems.

BENUE ASSEMBLY SUPPORTS FEDERAL LIAISON OFFICERS

AB180845 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 May 80

[Text] The Benue State house of assembly has reaffirmed total support for the appointment of presidential liason officers in the state. A report from Makurdi says that the assembly made the resolution on the state of allegiance for President Shagari when they (?considered) the appointment.

BRIEFS

NIGERIA-HAITI COOPERATION--Nigeria and Haiti have agreed in principle to enter into cooperation in the economic, technical and cultural fields. This agreement was reached yesterday in Lagos during discussions between the vice president, Dr Alex Ekueme and Haiti's first ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Victor (Pierreloy). Mr (Pierreloy) spoke of the intention of his country to construct and oil refinery in Nigeria and expressed the hope that the federal government would cooperate. In his reply Dr Ekueme advised the ambassador to make a formal request through the Federal Ministry of National Planning. Nigeria and Haiti share cultural and racial similarities. [Text] [Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 May 80 AB]

NIGERIA: OUTGOING GREEK AMBASSADOR--President Shehu Shagari yesterday received in audience the outgoing Greek ambassador in Nigeria. During the visit the envoy Mr A.J. (?Ekstacion) delivered a special message the Greek leader remarked that both Nigeria and his country shared the same experience of transition from military to civilian administration. [Text] [Lagos International Service in English 0830 17 May 80 AB]

LESOTHO

COMMERCE MINISTER IN TAIWAN; DISCUSSES ECONOMIC EXCHANGES

For reportage on the visit of Minister of Commerce and Industry Vitus Mooki Molapo to Taiwan, see the Taiwan section of the 16 May and subsequent issues of the Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

SOUTH AFRICA

NUCLEAR ENERGY INQUIRY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DEFINES ROLE

LD170901 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 17 May 80

[Text] The chairman of the newly appointed committee of inquiry into the restructuring of South Africa's nuclear activities, Dr Ampie Roux, says the solution to the world's energy problems undoubtedly lies in the increased use of nuclear energy. Dr Roux, who is also chairman of the South African Uranium Enrichment Corporation, said his committee had been formed with the view to the growing importance of nuclear energy. One of its main tasks would be to investigate the criticism that had been leveled against the use of nuclear energy. It would also investigate the exportation of South African expertise to other countries.

Other matters to be investigated by the committee, Dr Roux added, included more efficient research in South Africa, the extension of uranium enrichment activities and whether South Africa should acquire more nuclear power stations. The question of whether South Africa should sign a nuclear nonproliferation agreement was a political matter and it was unlikely that the committee would give any attention to it.

ZAMBIA

PAPER COMMENTS ON ARREST OF ZAMBIANS BY ZIMBABWE

LD151654 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0525 GMT 14 May 80 CA

[Excerpts] On the front page of today's ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL there is a rather sad story headlined: 27 fishermen arrested by Zimbabwe soldiers. Here is today's ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL editorial comment on this issue.

When Zimbabwe attained independence 3 weeks ago our people thought wrongly that all the problems and harassment on the borders were over. And anybody can blame them for this mistaken feeling because they sincerely think, even now, that all the suffering is over. However, last weekend 27 Zambian fishermen were rounded up as they were fishing in the Zambezi River and taken captive to Zimbabwe, where they are due to face trial in the magistrates' court of Karoli. So far we understand that they will answer a charge of fishing in Zimbabwean territorial waters. This is a [word indistinct] offence to all those innocent villagers and they could even appeal and swear to God that they did not understand why they were being tortured.

When the war of liberation ended in February this year our people on the border with Zimbabwe, and even our government, thought that all the inconveniences and restrictions had ended. But what has happened now is a serious warning that Zambians should not take the independence of Zimbabwe for granted. Under normal circumstances, and with the respect that we have for the new government of Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe, we would not comment on this issue. But we find it difficult to believe that Zimbabwe can start harassing our people on such questionable and (?assumed) offences. We feel strongly about this, and we would not like to think at this stage that we bore all the hardships and died for the freedom of Zimbabwe in order to facilitate our fate.

We should also not like anything to sour the relations between our two countries, at least not so soon before tears for the Zambians who died for the liberation of that country dry. We consider this a sad incident and we would like to think that the action by Zimbabwean soldiers was most regrettable.

For the information of the authorities in Zimbabwe those fishermen are simple villagers who will not understand the charge when the magistrate in Karoi reads it to them. This is because they only understand physicial boundaries, and there is none on water.

The other point is that those 27 innocent Zambians are not enemies of Zimbabwe. If they were wrong by fishing in the river and drying fish on the island the harshest action we would expect the authorities in Zimbabwe to take is probably a serious warning, and this should have been done at the port where the men were found.

We do not in any way imply that Zambians who commit serious offences in Zimbabwe should not face trial, not at all. In the same way Zimbabweans will be punished if they misbehave against the law of Zambia. But we would urge the authorities to consider the case of the 27 Zambians seriously. If minor authorities cannot make a decision we would appeal to Prime Minister Robert Mugabe to intervene. We are not demanding a (?reward), but we fear that continued harassment of our people on the border does not augur well for the future relations of our two countries. Concludes today's ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL editorial comment.

Government Attacks Paper's Comment

LD151655 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 14 May 80 CA

[Text] And now, here is a late item, just received.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has described today's "opinion" in the ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL on the reported arrest of 27 Zambians who were allegedly fishing in Zimbabwean waters at Chirundu as being in bad taste and completely out of line with government policy. The spokesman categorically disassociated the party and its government from the spirit and letter of the editorial comment, which it described as being an individual opinion which did not receive sanction from either the party or its government. The spokesman added that the policy of the government is to develop and build good neighborly relations between Zambia and the new independent state of Zimbabwe. He emphasized that thoughtlessness and politically insensitive comments on this nature can only damage the good relations which now exist between Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The ministry spokesman noted as a matter of fact that it is not in the nature of the people of Zambia to pass value judgments. To this extent, the editorial comment was an overreaction to an incident which is sub judice. The ministry spokesman stressed that it was incumbent on all Zambians to respect the laws of the independent Republic of Zimbabwe. If for any reason, therefore, and in the reasonable opinion of Zimbabwean security forces, anyone, including Zambians, was suspected to have committed an offence, the law of Zimbabwe should be allowed to take its course. For this reason, the ministry spokesman emphasized that all Zambians should take due care not simply to cross into Zimbabwe, or for that matter any other neighboring country, without necessary travel documents which are required by the laws of those countries.

The party and its government will not protect any Zambian who violates the territorial integrity of Zimbabwe on the pretext that Zambians should not be harrassed because they have suffered a lot during the war for liberation. That suffering was Zambia's contribution to bring dignity and respectability to Zimbabwe. The people of that country have now attained their independence, together with the respect and dignity that come along with it.

BULGARIAN OFFICIAL SIGNS PROTOCOL, CONCLUDES VISIT

Official Comment on Protocol

LD161242 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 May 80 CA

[Text] The protocol which has been signed between Zambia and Bulgaria sets Zambia on a firm footing on the road to increased economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. Member of the Central Committee Mr Reuben Kamanga has said he was grateful to note that the two countries had reached agreement in a number of key areas for the economic development of Zambia. Mr Kamanga said this when he signed the protocol of the second session of the Bulgaria-Zambia Commission for Economic, Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation at Freedom House. Mr Kamanga named the most important areas in which the party and its government were determined to develop almost immediately as agriculture, mining, transport and industry. He said Zambia and Bulgaria have agreed to establish a state farm, which will be involved in crop, vegetable and fruit production, livestock production, animal feed production and processing plants.

Bulgaria Pledges Aid

LD161042 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 May 80 CA

[Text] The Bulgarian Government today pledged economic assistance to Zambia to consolidate her political independence. The pledge was made today by Bulgarian deputy prime minister, Professor Stamen Stamenov, at a lunch held in his honor by the southern province political secretary, Mr Axon Soko, at Hotel Intercontinental in Livingstone. Mr Stamenov said it was important for Zambia to achieve its economic independence, so that it could be able to provide basic needs to its people, just like any other developed nation. The deputy prime minister said just like in the same way Bulgaria assisted independent African countries during their independence struggle, it was still prepared to give economic aid to newly independent states like Zimbabwe. Prof Stamenov also pledged that his country will continue helping the new independent Zimbabwe economically, because political independence is quite different from economic.

Bulgarian Deputy Premier Departs

LD171103 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 16 May 80 CA

[Excerpt] Bulgarian Deputy Prime Minister Prof Stamen Stamenov, who has been in Zambia since Monday at the head of a 13-man delegation, was seen off at Lusaka international airport by member of the Central Committee Mr Rueben Kamanga; Minister of State for National Commission for Development Planning Mr Unia Mwila; and several top party and government officials.

FINANCE MINISTER SEES IMPROVED PAYMENTS BALANCE

LD171107 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 16 May 80 CA

[Text] Minister of Finance Mr Kebby Musokotwane said in Livingstone that Zambia's balance of payments, which at one time stood at 500 million kwacha, has now been reduced to 300 million kwacha. He said: By next year Zambia will be out of the red and the country would be assured of an economic boom, which would boost employment opportunities for many people. Addressing students at David Livingston Teacher Training College Mr Mosokotwane said Zambia has already passed through the darkest hours and by 1981 Zambia would be able to stand on her own feet.

The minister said the country's economy was improving, and both imports and exports are now able to move at a fast pace following the independence of Zimbabwe. Mr Musokotwane also disclosed that the government is expected to raise about 22 million kwacha from the mines this year as compared to last year, when it did not receive anything.

ZIMBABWE

NKOMO DISPUTES ELECTION OUTCOME, HITS MUGABE POLICIES

LD151457 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 11 May 80 pp 1, 11

[Samir 'Abd AL-MUTTALIB Salisbury interview with Zimbabwe Home Affairs Minister Joshua Nkomo in Salisbury--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Do you believe that you have achieved everything for which you struggled?

[Answer] We have in fact achieved a large and important part of our aims. Our country has returned to us at last. The barriers of discrimination and the exploitative laws have collapsed. That was a basic aim in the past, but now it is regarded as a phase achieved for the attainment of other far-reaching objectives. We want our people to have a taste of real freedom and to enjoy the country's resources. We want every child to find a place in school; every patient to find a hospital bed, a doctor and medicine, and every man to have a suitable job with fair wages.

[Question] In his recent speeches to the people, Prime Minister Mugabe emphasized that the sufferings and hatreds of the past must be forgotten and that a new page of life and cooperation among all the communities of the people must be opened. Do you think that this will be achieved?

[Answer] We can only hope so, and we must try to achieve it; but we will undoubtedly encounter many difficulties and problems in the process. Let us hope and pray to God to grant us success in pursuing the right course, otherwise the losses will be grave.

[Question] During my meetings with black citizens and white settlers I have felt that there is a point which is bound to cause a fateful conflict. The black citizens have many hopes which they want to fulfill quickly after long deprivation. They want good agricultural land, which is monopolized by the whites. They want high positions; they want to regain their material rights now that they have attained their political freedom. They want to achieve all this quickly, whereas the white settlers believe that the land, the positions and the resources they have are their acquired rights which no one has the right to joepardize.

[Answer] The black citizens' demands are fair. Just because the whites were able, under certain circumstances which they created and by virtue of their strength, to take sole possession of the country's resources, it does not mean that this is their acquired right which cannot be jeopardized. The people's sufferings must be ended, but we must try to achieve this gradually and calmly. Let me emphasize to you, however, that the whites are perfectly aware that they have lost and that they cannot resist the inevitable change. They tried for years and fought and used all means of force and suppression to safeguard their privileges, but the people's strength, was greater. Believe me, they know perfectly well that they are defeated, that what they enjoyed in the past cannot last and that they must accept the realities and the future. Whoever wants to stay must stay among us and not above us.

[Question] I used to imagine that problems would rapidly develop between whites and blacks. [paragraph continues]

Problems have erupted and are aggravating day after day but, regrettably, among the blacks, we now see incessant battles between Mugabe's, Muzorewa's and your supporters.

[Answer] We do not attack anyone. The Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army and Mugabe's supporters are the ones who are attacking Zimbabwe African People's Union [ZAPW] members and followers' homes. It is only in self-defense that we fight them. They are provoking others feelings. They want everybody to uphold Zimbabwe African National Union [ZANU] slogans. When they learn that ZAPU party slogans are raised in a certain house or that it contains shirts or flags bearing my name or picture, they attack the house and tear up the slogans and the shirts and, naturally, attack the people in it.

[Question] But I have heard the contrary from Zimbabweans. They say that the members of your and other parties are jealous and envious of ZANU because of the success it has achieved?

[Answer] These are supporters of Mugabe.

[Question] But you are the home affairs minister, and you are duty-bound to maintain security and end these disturbances.

[Answer] Ending the disturbances is the responsibility of the party and national leaders. I believe that we will resolve this problem.

[Question] How will it be resolved, in your opinion?

[Answer] I do not know exactly, but efforts are being made toward this end.

[Question] But until you reach a solution and these efforts succeed, more blood will be shed and dangers will exacerbate and probably destroy everything you have achieved so far.

Pounding the desk with his fist, Nkomo cried angrily: What is happening is the result of a bigger mistake. The elections which gave Mugabe's supporters a majority in Parliament and consequently made him prime minister are the reason, because they did not express the real situation in Zimbabwe. The majority of the people are with my party and support me, but the British were afraid that I might become prime minister--which they knew was bound to happen had they not interfered. They quite deliberately helped Mugabe and deprived me of the prime ministership to his benefit. Mugabe struggled for this country for not more than 6 or 7 years, while I struggled for over a quarter of a century.

[Question] Why did not you object to the way the elections were going and to their results at the time?

[Answer] I preferred to remain silent and not to cause problems at the time out of concern for independence. We were about to attain our freedom and it was inappropriate for me to raise the issue so as not to hurt the country. I kept quiet so that we could achieve independence quickly.

[Question] Prime Minister Mugabe and you are known to have socialist inclinations. Indeed, Mugabe used to say publicly that he was a Marxist. But nowadays all his statements and allthe new government's actions confirm a tendency to consolidate the capitalist sytem in the country. What is your explanation for that?

[Answer] Mugabe a Marxist! This must be a joke. Mugabe has persistently said so, but actually he is more capitalist than the British and the Americans. [paragraph continues]

The future will prove this to you. The Soviet leaders exposed him from the beginning, and for that reason he resorted to China for support. But, now that he has become prime minister, he is smiling at Beijing and Moscow and dealing and establishing links with London and Washington.

[Question] And you? Are you not a friend and ally of Moscow?

[Answer] Yes. The Soviets helped me a great deal during the years of struggle, and they are aware of my real nature, which I have not tried to falisify. They know that I am not their agent or lackey and that I am a friend to them, to the Americans and the British and to everyone who helps me.

[Question] Do I understand that, had you been prime minister, you would have toed the communist line?

[Answer] No. The line I would have pursued in that event is the same as I have been insisting on pursuing, despite the fact that I am only a minister and not a prime minister. This line is Zimbabwe's interests and the people's wishes. The people of Zimbabwe are neither communist nor capitalist. We have our own distinct personality and, consequently, we will have our own distinct line.

[Question] With the peoples and leaders of South Africa and Namibia, I was surprised when Mugabe declared after independence that he would not involve Zimbabwe in the South African people's struggle against their racist government or establish bases for them on Zimbabwe soil, despite the fact that all the neighboring African countries helped you in your struggle and you are duty-bound, therefore, to play your part toward Namibia and South Africa.

Nkomo answered with clear bitterness: What do you want me to say? I am not the prime minister who decided and announced that. It is he who should explain the situation.

[Question] Salisbury had strong relations with Israel, however I noticed that Israel was not among the states you invited to attend the independence celebrations, whereas you invited the PLO. Does this mean that you will take a neutral position regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict?

[Answer] Those who established relations with Israel and who ruled Zimbabwe were people different from us. This country is now being governed by its people. We are completely different from the others. They had strong relations with the Israelis because they were like them--both were usurping settlers on others' land. As far as we are concerned, we do not have and will not establish relations with Israel. This is a basic issue. The Arabs are our friends and they were on our side during the years of ordeal. The PLO has strong relations with us, and we will give every possible support and aid to our Palestinian friends. We may not be able to help them with funds and arms at present, but other means of assistance are numerous and open.

BRIEFS

CHOLERA IN MOZAMBIQUE--Some 126 cases of cholera have been confirmed in Maputo since 27 March 1980. Four deaths have been registered, according to the MOZAMBICAN NEWS AGENCY. [Excerpt] [Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0530 GMT 16 May 80 EA]